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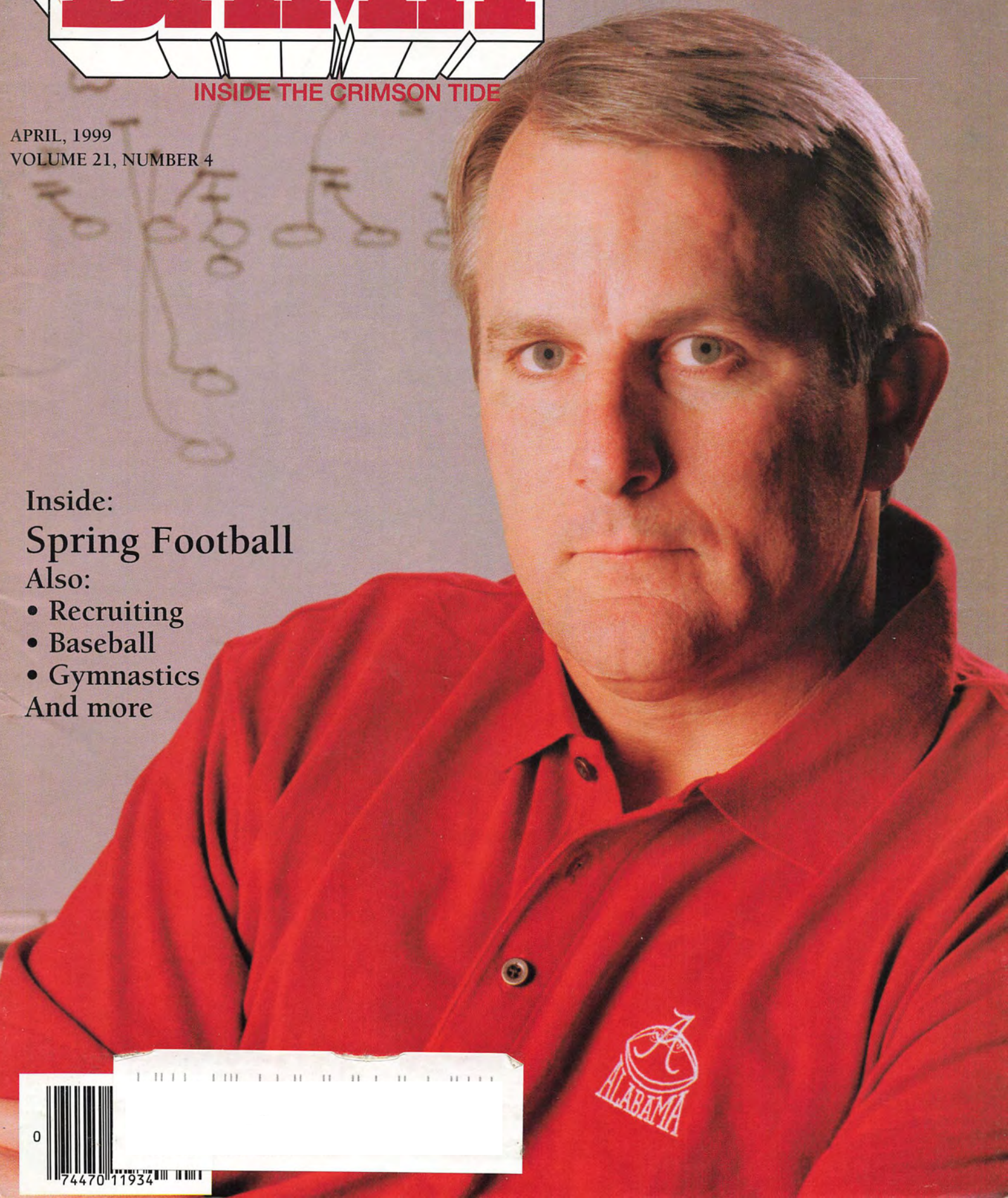
APRIL, 1999  
VOLUME 21, NUMBER 4

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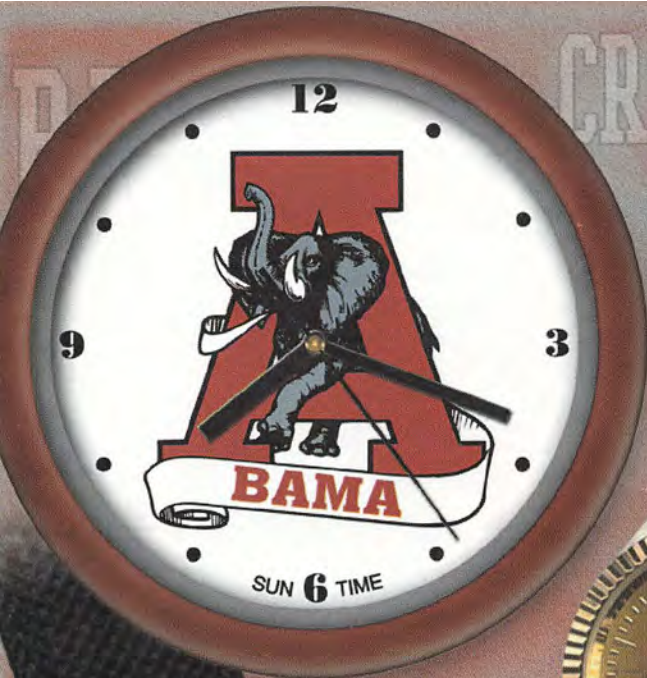
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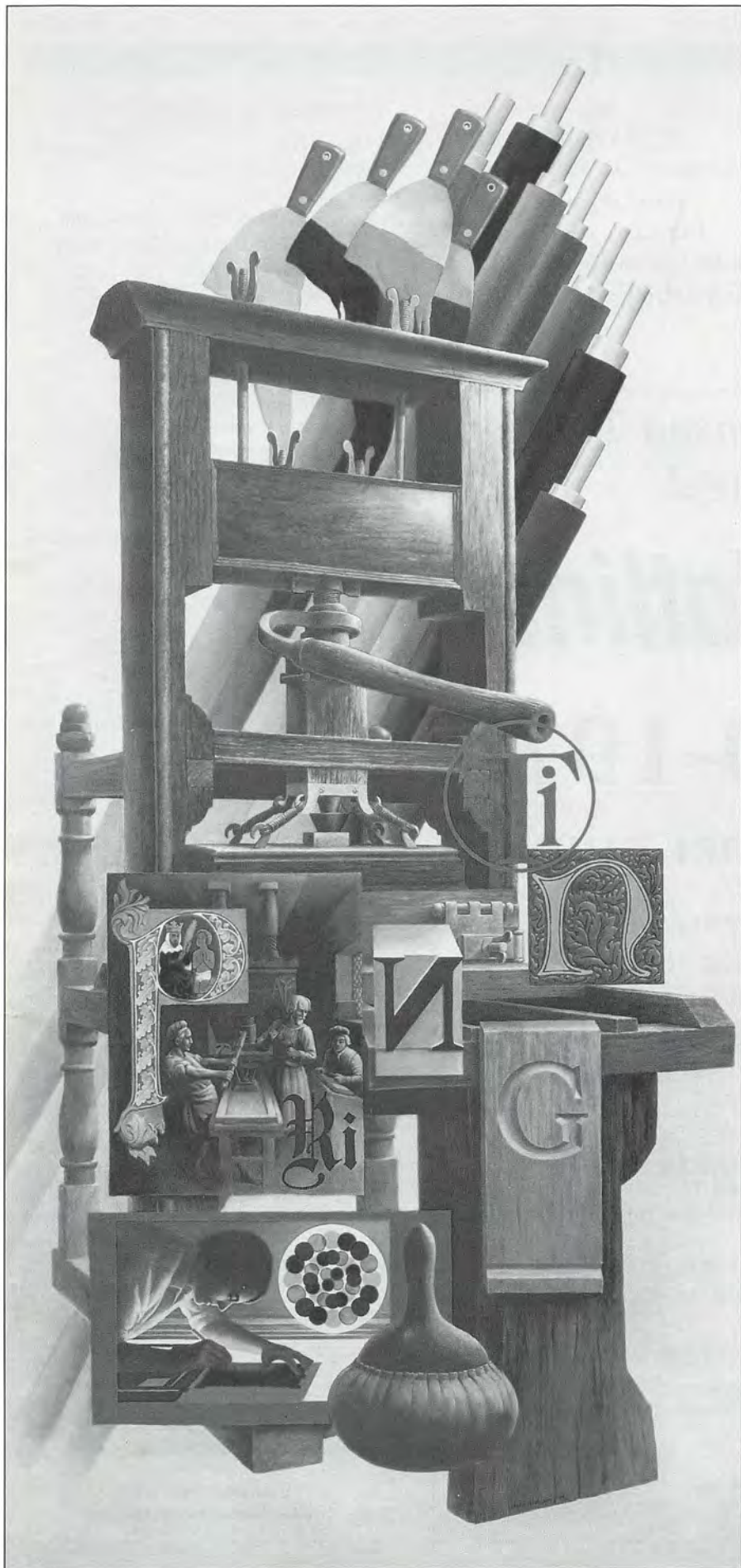
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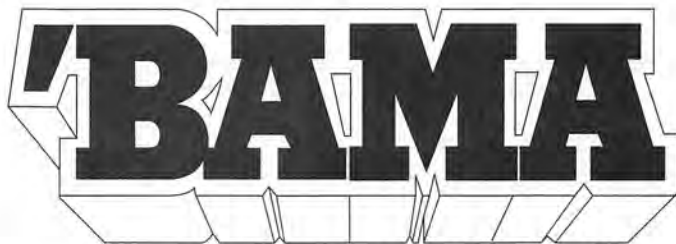
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INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

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Barry Fikes Photo



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Assistant Coach Neil Callaway expects to have a much improved offensive line in 1999, in part because all starters from last year are back, in part because of increased competition that will also provide depth, and in part because of improved strength.

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# The Building Of An Offensive Line

by Kirk McNair

Callaway wants to have five best on the field to start, but more than five good linemen

One area of Alabama football that has been particularly disappointing to fans and coaches over the past quarter of a century or so is the offensive line. There have been a few all-star selections along the way, but for the most part the offensive front has been considered a weakness of Crimson Tide teams in the post-wishbone era that began in 1983.

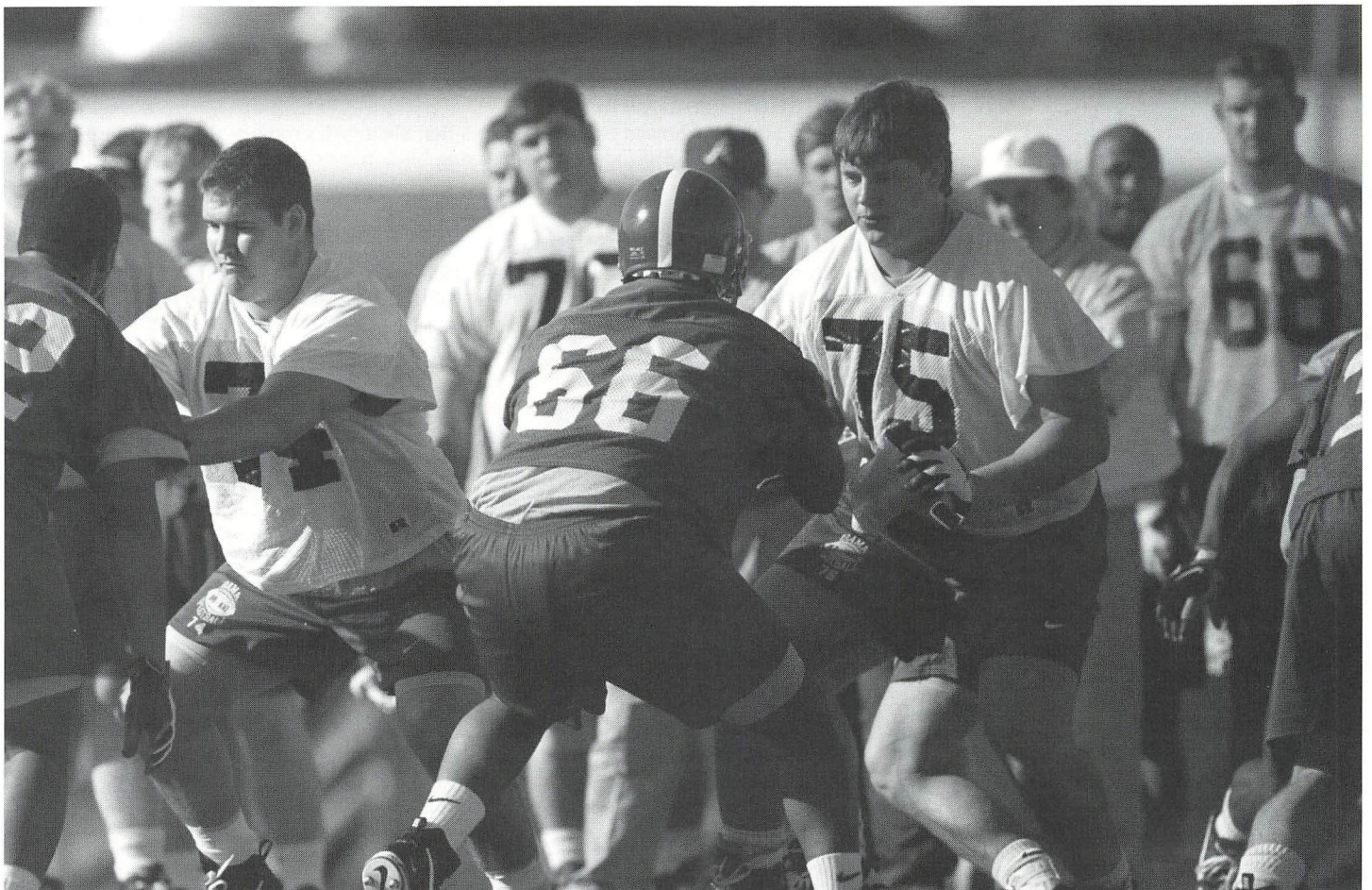
It's not likely that the Crimson Tide will develop a line-up of John Hannah-types

from tackle-to-tackle and two-deep this year, but it is the goal of Neil Callaway, who coaches the up-front corps, to have a much-improved offensive line this year and in the future.

"We'll always try to put the best five on the field," Callaway said. That means there could be some position changes. But starting out the spring, Callaway was satisfied to put returning starters in their old spots and watch the competition. (Injuries are a part

of football and had something of an effect on early offensive line work. Returning starting right guard Jason McDonald was rehabilitating a knee that had some minor surgery and promising redshirt freshman right tackle Bart Raulston suffered strained ligaments in an early workout. Both were expected to be able to practice the final two weeks of spring training.)

One returning starter has been pronounced as established at his position. Left



Two returning starters from the 1998 offensive line could end up competing for the same job this season. Although Griff Redmill (75) was at guard last year and is starting out at guard in spring practice, he could also get some time at center, where Paul Hogan (74) is the returning starter. Barry Fikes Photo



tackle Chris Samuels is a returning All-Southeastern Conference performer and a sure NFL draft choice after his senior season. DuBose has also said Samuels should be the top offensive lineman in the SEC this season.

However, other returning starters may not be so secure. While it's not impossible that all returning starters would again earn those positions, the competition is more keen in 1999 than it was in 1998. Nevertheless, with the exception of McDonald, Samuels was joined on the first unit as spring training got under way with Griff Redmill at left guard, Paul Hogan at center and Will Cuthbert at right tackle, all 1998 starters.

Redmill and Cuthbert are also expected to be starting again in 1999, although there has been speculation that they might not start in the same positions. Redmill is expected to get some work at center if depth permits it. And Cuthbert is considered a natural guard.

Head Coach Mike DuBose has mentioned the possibility of position changes up front, particularly regarding Cuthbert. He said, "I've always thought he was better suited to play guard. If we can get someone like Lanis Baxley or Bart Raulston to come through at right tackle, then we'll move Will inside." DuBose said a number of players can be expected to try their hand at more than one position on the offensive line.

"I'm not going to move them around until I have a strong feeling," Callaway said. "I want to let them compete at a position, not play musical chairs with them. But we've certainly got some who could be at a different position. Cuthbert could be a guard; (Kenric) Lott could be a tackle; Redmill could be a center; and so on."

Callaway said, "This will be the first time they have had real competition. As we see a need for movement, we'll make changes in how they line up. But we're not going to do it on some set schedule. We're not going to make changes based on how a player does in one day or in one practice period."

Samuels is backed up by Baxley at left tackle, Redmill by former defensive lineman Sam Matthews at right guard, Hogan by red-shirt freshman Marico Portis at center, Lott (who was promoted into McDonald's spot) by Michael Barfield at right guard, and Cuthbert by Raulston at right tackle. Chris Ray at tackle and Ray Marshall at guard are trying to get into the rotation.

Callaway said, "Last year, for all practical purposes, we only played five offensive linemen. That's not because we wanted to. We'd like to be at least two deep at every position, but we may not have but eight or nine we

believe we can win with. We may have three tackles, three guards and two centers and have to work them around."

He said ideally, that he'd like to be able to play two sets of linemen. "If, for instance, you have 75 offensive snaps in a game, I'd like to have the first group playing about 50 of those snaps and the second group playing about 25 snaps," he said. "But at crunch time, the best five are going to be in there. I tell the players that the best five will be in there when the game is on the line, but that everyone who is good enough to win with will get to play."

Callaway said, "We've got to be better in the offensive line to be a national championship type football team." And he thinks Alabama will be better in the offensive line for a number of reasons.

First of all, he said, "We're a year older and more experienced. Two, we have competition. For the same reason we have com-

petition, we now have more depth. And, finally, I think our off-season work in the weight room has made us stronger."

Callaway also thinks that it will help the offensive line to have a lot of other experienced players on offense returning and to have the same offensive system and coaches in place as was the case in 1998.

Alabama linemen have just one position coach. Callaway said, "It's the way I prefer to do it. I know there's a downside to doing it that way, but they are all listening to one guy. And I like the fact that it puts a little more responsibility on the older guys to help bring the younger guys along."

The Tide coach notes that offensive linemen are frequently slower to earn playing time than is the case at other positions. "Offensive linemen have a lot to learn," Callaway said. "We film everything we do and do a lot of film study. They probably don't have to learn as much as quarterbacks, but they also take a physical pounding that



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you hope the quarterback is not getting. The combination of the physical and the mental makes it difficult to come in and play early on the offensive line."

Alabama uses both zone blocking, which involves combinations of offensive linemen working against defensive linemen, and man blocking, which is one-on-one. Additionally, there are plays in which linemen must pull or trap.

For the most part, it takes at least a year or two for a player to physically mature into offensive line size. Although there are exceptions, such as Bart Raulston, who reported to Bama as a true freshman last year at 6-9, 330, it takes most young men a few years to become true 300-pounders. This year's Alabama line is expected to average in the 300 range regardless of which five earn starting jobs. Hogan is the "lightweight" of the bunch at only 275.

Callaway noted that the linemen are bigger and stronger, further along than at this time last year or in 1997 when he arrived at Alabama. "But it takes time," he said. In the off-season he said the linemen did less work on speed and agility and conditioning in order to spend additional time on lifting and getting stronger. "But we still have to have agility and we have to be in shape," Callaway said.

He said that he prefers a taller lineman at the tackle positions because it helps in pass protection. "The rule of thumb," he said, "is that your best pass protector is at left tackle because if you have a right-handed quarterback, that's the blind side." He said that tackles need to be better athletes than guards, who need to be stronger.

## A-Day Weekend Schedule Of Activities

Activities have been set for the 1999 A-Day weekend, which includes the annual A-Day Game on Saturday, April 17. Kickoff for the game will be at 12:30 p.m. CDT. There will be no charge for admission to the game and gates will open at 11 a.m. Seating will be on the west side only in Bryant-Denny Stadium.

The weekend begins with Walk of Fame ceremonies at 4 p.m. CDT Friday, April 16, at Denny Chimes. The five captains from the 1998 team, Calvin Hall, John David Phillips, Daniel Pope, Kelvin Sigler and Trevis Smith, will place their shoe and hand prints in cement at the base of the chimes, a tradition begun in 1948.

Activities resume at 8:30 a.m. Saturday when the 1999 football team will meet the public at Fan Day on the concourse of Coleman Coliseum. Tide players will be available to sign posters (free to the public and distributed in the lobby of Coleman Coliseum) and other items and pose for photographs until 10:30 a.m.

There will be special functions for members of Tide Pride and for the A-Club (which will have a golf tournament at Harry Pritchett Golf Course Friday and its annual meeting in Bryant-Denny Stadium Saturday).

Prior to kickoff at Bryant-Denny Stadium, the "War Babies," members of Alabama football teams from 1944-47, will be recognized.

The early kickoff time is to allow fans with tickets to attend the Alabama-LSU baseball game, which begins at 2 p.m. Bama and LSU will also meet in games at 7 p.m. Friday and 1 p.m. Sunday. All baseball games are sold out, but a limited number of standing room tickets are sold beginning two hours before first pitch.

And the center, he said, "has to have a combination of everything. He has to be quick and he has to have strength. And because the center starts everything and directs traffic, he has to have a good understanding of what's going on."

Callaway had praise for the competitive nature of Bama center Paul Hogan, an upcoming junior who is a two-year starter. "We've been pleased with what he's done," Callaway said. "He's a tough guy who plays hard and who has done a good job. But today you have to be 285 or so to have a chance. Paul gets out-manned by some of the big nose-guards. He's worked hard in the weight room to get stronger, but he's still just 275."

Four of Alabama's top back-ups going into spring training were redshirted last year. Baxley, Portis and Raulston are all redshirt freshmen, while Lott is a junior college transfer who was held out in 1998. The other top back-up, Samuels, is a sophomore who has seen basically no action after beginning his career on the defensive line.

Still, Callaway has seen something of the youngsters. "Last year we brought them over about mid-season to begin working out with us in drills," Callaway said. "And when we were practicing prior to learning our bowl opponent, we spent a lot of time with the young players. They still have a lot to learn, but they got an idea."

## Guess At An Alabama Spring Football Depth Chart

Although Alabama does not issue an official depth chart, here is a guess at how the Crimson Tide football team is shaping up midway through spring practice. This depth chart does not include everyone who is on the squad. It also lists 12 positions on offense since Bama is frequently in a set with three wide receivers. A few injured players—Jason McDonald, Bart Raulston, Johnovan Morgan, Travis Carroll, Marcus Spencer—are inserted into the depth chart in parenthesis. All but Carroll are expected to be participating in the second half of drills beginning April 5.

### Offense

Split End—Shamari Buchanan, Eric Locke, Jay Stubbs  
Left Tackle—Chris Samuels, Lanis Baxley  
Left Guard—Griff Redmill, Sam Matthews, Ray Marshall  
Center—Paul Hogan, Marico Portis  
Right Guard—(Jason McDonald), Kenric Lott, Michael Barfield  
Right Tackle—Will Cuthbert, (Bart Raulston), Chris Ray  
Tight End—Terry Jones, Theo Sanders, (Johnovan Morgan)  
Quarterback—Andrew Zow, Tyler Watts, Luke Tucker  
Jonathan Richey  
Tailback—Shaun Alexander, Arvin Richard, Shaun Bohanon,  
Ahmaad Galloway, Shontua Ray  
Fullback—Dustin McClintock, Marvin Brown  
Flanker—Tim Bowens, Freddie Milons, Rob Egan  
Slot—Jason McAddley, Sam Collins, Dennis Bonga

### Defense

Left End—Kenny Smith, Reggie Grimes, Shaun Williams  
Left Tackle—Cornelius Griffin, Carlos Stennis, Derek Sanders  
Right Tackle—Jamie Carter, Todd Whitmore, Kelvis White,  
Rob-E Staten  
Right End—Kindal Moorehead, Shawn Draper  
Strongside Linebacker—Darius Gilbert, Canary Knight  
Middle Linebacker—(Travis Carroll), Marvin Constant, Adam Cox  
Weakside Linebacker—Victor Ellis, Miguel Merritt, Chris Horne  
Left Cornerback—Kecall Bailey, Milo Lewis, Marcus Slay  
Right Cornerback—Reggie Myles, Chris Reier, Steven Harris  
Strong Safety—(Marcus Spencer), Phillip Weeks, Jason Jones  
Safety—Dennis Dixon, Gary Barnes

### Special Teams

Punter—Patrick Morgan, Jason Kellen, Lane Bearden, Brian Barlow  
Snapper—Bradley Ledbetter, Tripp Powell

Placekicker—Ryan Pflugner, A.J. Diaz, Mark Wisniewski, Chris Kemp  
Holder—Chris Reier, Patrick Morgan



# Big Games Go To Tuscaloosa

by Kirk McNair

**While it came with a cost, Bockrath did negotiate Bama out of Legion Field**

Alabama Athletics Director Bob Bockrath is on a roll. Just weeks after his success in safely extricating the Crimson Tide basketball program from the morass of NCAA transgression, Bockrath may have established his legacy. That's because he has negotiated Alabama football out of Birmingham.

Okay, to be absolutely correct, Bockrath didn't get Alabama football out of Legion Field completely. But he got the marquee games to Tuscaloosa's Bryant-Denny Stadium. And while Bama will continue to play the occasional game in Birmingham for about a decade, there will be no Southeastern Conference games and none of those high-profile non-conference (UCLA, Notre Dame, etc.) games at Legion Field. And some may quibble with Alabama's decision to pay the City of Birmingham over a million dollars (\$350,000 each) for moving two Tennessee games and one Auburn game from Birmingham to Tuscaloosa, but that was the direction Bockrath elected to go in order to make a peaceful settlement. The University has held the curious stance that the City of Birmingham's alliance with Alabama-Birmingham football and the deteriorating condition of Legion Field were not sufficient to end the contract completely, forcing Bockrath into the expensive, patch-work withdrawal.

Bockrath has some ground—indeed, high ground—in his acknowledgement of the great history of Alabama playing in Birmingham and the importance of maintaining a presence in the state's largest city. But there is no question that overwhelming sentiment had been to get Bama out of Birmingham and let Legion Field become the home of Alabama-Birmingham.

Much was made over last year's 31-17 victory over Auburn being the last Alabama-Auburn game in Legion Field. However, that series had already lost its unique flavor, and it may be for the best that it ended with no special emphasis. Most think the game changed because Auburn moved all of its

## 1999 Alabama Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Series Record
Sept. 4	Vanderbilt	Nashville	Bama leads 54-19-4
Sept. 11	Houston	Birmingham	Bama leads 8-0-0
Sept. 18	Louisiana Tech	Birmingham	Bama leads 3-1-0
Sept. 25	Arkansas	Tuscaloosa	Bama leads 6-3-0
Oct. 2	Florida	Gainesville	Bama leads 17-12-0
Oct. 16	Ole Miss	Oxford	Bama leads 37-7-2
Oct. 23	Tennessee	Tuscaloosa	Bama leads 42-31-8
Oct. 30	Southern Miss (Homecoming)	Tuscaloosa	Bama leads 29-4-2
Nov. 6	LSU	Tuscaloosa	Bama leads 41-16-5
Nov. 13	Mississippi State	Tuscaloosa	Bama leads 67-13-3
Nov. 20	Auburn	Auburn	Bama leads 36-26-1

Birmingham home games to Auburn some 10 years ago, but what changed the rivalry was the need of both universities to include the Alabama-Auburn game in its season ticket package. That necessitated the termination of the 50-50 ticket split for the game, and it was that equally divided crowd, not the site of the game, that gave the Alabama-Auburn game a national reputation as a sports event. It can still be a big game outside the state from time-to-time (but not in a year when Alabama finishes 7-4 and Auburn is 3-8, as was the case last year) and will always be a major contest within the state.

Alabama-Tennessee continues as such an event because of the history of the series that made it a national game some 60 years ago.

Basically, Birmingham now gets the games that many Alabama fans don't want to see no matter where the game is played. Generations of Bama football fans have grown up remembering having first attended a college game when Alabama played the likes of Southern Miss. Once upon a time those games against regional non-conference opponents were in Tuscaloosa. For the next few years it is likely that a number of young people will be first-time college football spectators in Birmingham.

Before this agreement, Alabama would have been completely out of Legion Field following the 2001 season. Until then, Bama had been contracted to play three games per year in Birmingham, and one of those three games had to be the Auburn or Tennessee game in years in which Alabama was the home team. As part of the arrangement for moving the Tennessee games in this season and in 2001 and the Auburn game in 2000, Alabama agreed to play two games per year through

that 2001 season, then one game in 2002, 2003, 2005 and either 2007 or 2008.

Because of the number of weekends between the weekend before Labor Day and the end of November in 2002 and 2003, the NCAA has ruled that schools may play a 12th regular season game each of those seasons. Thus, Alabama will add a 12th game that will be a home game and will still have seven games in Tuscaloosa those seasons. Although there has been no suggestion that Alabama might not play the 2005 and the 2007 or 2008 game in Birmingham, by that time it could be that both parties would agree to let the Bama presence in Legion Field end.

Because the additional games in 2002 and 2003 will not be returned by Alabama at a future time, the games will be of the North Texas State ilk. Alabama already has high-profile non-conference games with Oklahoma in 2002 and 2003. (And the Tide's non-conference schedule also includes Penn State in 2005 and Notre Dame in 2007.)

The new schedule has Tennessee in Tuscaloosa on October 23 this season and October 20, 2001, Auburn in Bryant-Denny Stadium November 18, 2000.

Although Birmingham has long been considered an "Alabama town," and will probably continue to be, Legion Field has not been significant as a home field for several years. When Bryant-Denny Stadium was expanded in time for last season, the Tuscaloosa stadium became even more important as a home field because it is slightly larger than Legion Field. The Birmingham stadium seats 83,091, Bryant-Denny 83,818.

Also important to Alabama football success is the recruiting factor. By NCAA rules, a school that plays games at more than one



location can have prospects at all those sites. However, the Southeastern Conference limits its member schools that play at more than one site (basically Alabama and Arkansas) to having prospects at only one game at an off-campus site. And in any

event, having prospects at a game in Birmingham, where there is no place for prospects to gather with staff, is not the same as in Tuscaloosa, where Bryant-Denny Stadium has magnificent meeting areas in the Scholarship and A-Club rooms.

Head Football Coach Mike DuBose said, "This will be a tremendous help for our football recruiting efforts. Our stadium is a great selling point in recruiting and the more we can showcase that facility, the better it is for us."

## Tentative Future Alabama Football Schedules

Southeastern Conference schedules beyond 2007 have not been finalized. Twelve games allowed in 2002, 2003, 2007, 2008.

2000			2004		
Date	Opponent	Site	Date	Opponent	Site
Sept. 9	Vanderbilt	Tuscaloosa	Sept. 4	To Be Announced	Tuscaloosa
Sept. 16	Southern Miss.	Birmingham	Sept. 11	Vanderbilt	Tuscaloosa
Sept. 23	Arkansas	Away	Sept. 18	Penn State	State College
Sept. 30	South Carolina	Tuscaloosa	Sept. 25	Arkansas	Away
Oct. 7	UCLA	Pasadena	Oct. 2	Kentucky	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 14	Ole Miss	Tuscaloosa	Oct. 9	To Be Announced	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 21	Tennessee	Knoxville	Oct. 16	Ole Miss	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 28	Central Florida	Birmingham	Oct. 23	Tennessee	Knoxville
Nov. 4	LSU	Baton Rouge	Nov. 6	LSU	Baton Rouge
Nov. 11	Miss. State	Starkville	Nov. 13	Miss. State	Starkville
Nov. 18	Auburn	Tuscaloosa	Nov. 20	Auburn	Tuscaloosa
2001			2005		
Date	Opponent	Site	Date	Opponent	Site
Sept. 1	To Be Announced	Birmingham	Sept. 3	To Be Announced	Home
Sept. 8	Vanderbilt	Nashville	Sept. 10	Penn State	Tuscaloosa
Sept. 15	Southern Miss.	Birmingham	Sept. 17	Vanderbilt	Nashville
Sept. 22	Arkansas	Tuscaloosa	Sept. 24	Arkansas	Tuscaloosa
Sept. 29	South Carolina	Columbia	Oct. 1	Kentucky	Lexington
Oct. 6	UCLA	Tuscaloosa	Oct. 8	To Be Announced	Home
Oct. 13	Ole Miss	Oxford	Oct. 15	Ole Miss	Oxford
Oct. 20	Tennessee	Tuscaloosa	Oct. 22	Tennessee	Tuscaloosa
Nov. 3	LSU	Tuscaloosa	Oct. 29	To Be Announced	Home
Nov. 10	Miss. State	Tuscaloosa	Nov. 5	LSU	Tuscaloosa
Nov. 17	Auburn	Auburn	Nov. 12	Miss. State	Tuscaloosa
2002			Nov. 19	Auburn	Auburn
Date	Opponent	Site	2006		
Aug. 31	To Be Announced	Home	Date	Opponent	Site
Sept. 7	Oklahoma	Norman	Sept. 2	Vanderbilt	Tuscaloosa
Sept. 14	Vanderbilt	Tuscaloosa	Sept. 9	Notre Dame	South Bend
Sept. 21	To Be Announced	Home	Sept. 16	To Be Announced	Tuscaloosa
Sept. 28	Arkansas	Away	Sept. 23	Arkansas	Away
Oct. 5	Georgia	Tuscaloosa	Sept. 30	Florida	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 12	To Be Announced	Home	Oct. 7	To Be Announced	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 19	Ole Miss	Tuscaloosa	Oct. 14	Ole Miss	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 26	Tennessee	Knoxville	Oct. 21	Tennessee	Knoxville
Nov. 9	LSU	Baton Rouge	Oct. 28	To Be Announced	Tuscaloosa
Nov. 16	Miss. State	Starkville	Nov. 4	LSU	Baton Rouge
Nov. 23	Auburn	Tuscaloosa	Nov. 11	Miss. State	Starkville
2003			Nov. 18	Auburn	Tuscaloosa
Date	Opponent	Site	2007		
Sept. 6	Oklahoma	Tuscaloosa	Date	Opponent	Site
Sept. 13	Vanderbilt	Nashville	Sept. 1	Vanderbilt	Nashville
Sept. 20	To Be Announced	Home	Sept. 8	Notre Dame	Tuscaloosa
Sept. 27	Arkansas	Tuscaloosa	Sept. 15	To Be Announced	Home
Oct. 4	Georgia	Athens	Sept. 22	Arkansas	Tuscaloosa
Oct. 11	To Be Announced	Home	Sept. 29	Florida	Gainesville
Oct. 18	Ole Miss	Oxford	Oct. 6	To Be Announced	Home
Oct. 25	Tennessee	Tuscaloosa	Oct. 13	Ole Miss	Oxford
Nov. 1	To Be Announced	Home	Oct. 20	Tennessee	Tuscaloosa
Nov. 8	LSU	Tuscaloosa	Oct. 27	To Be Announced	Home
Nov. 15	Miss. State	Tuscaloosa	Nov. 3	LSU	Tuscaloosa
Nov. 22	Auburn	Auburn	Nov. 10	Miss. State	Tuscaloosa
			Nov. 17	Auburn	Auburn



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# Impact Player In The Making

by Donald F. Staffo

Defensive end followed up stellar prep career with outstanding first year at Alabama

**K**indal Moorehead will be only a sophomore next season, but he already has more football awards than most hardened veterans. Moreover, he has all the tools to be an impact player for Alabama.

Following a stellar career at Melrose High School in Memphis, Tennessee, Moorehead began raking in the honors. He earned *SuperPrep* All-America and made the *PrepStar* Dream Team, the Fox SportsSouth All-South Team, Jeff Whitaker's Southeastern Top 50, and the *Atlanta Journal* Super Southern 100. The *Knoxville News-Sentinel* selected him the top prospect in Tennessee. Generally speaking, he was considered one of the best players in the nation and the top defensive end prospect in the South.

And Moorehead didn't disappoint. Last fall he stepped right in at Alabama and made Freshman All-Southeastern Conference at defensive end. He played in every regular season game. He recorded 21 solo and 31 total tackles, 11 tackles for losses, and five quarterback sacks. He also was credited with 10 quarterback pressures, one pass break-up, one caused fumble, and one fumble recovery. Those would be acceptable numbers for an experienced player and were exceptional for a true freshman.

Unfortunately Moorehead missed the Music City Bowl Game due to a shoulder injury and the Crimson Tide missed Moorehead in the 34-7 loss to the Virginia Tech Hokies. "Following the 4-7 season the year before it was a team goal to get back to a bowl, and then we get there and I couldn't do my part," Moorehead said. "It was disappointing and a big letdown for me. Watching that game was hard, but it was something that we can learn from."

Moorehead has been rehabilitating the left shoulder that he hurt in practice after last year's Auburn game. "I bruised a bone but I've been doing normal weight-workouts for about a month and a half now," said Moorehead as spring football practice got under way. "It's back to about 85 or 90 per-

cent but I've still got to be careful." He was not limited in the amount of practice he could do as spring drills started.

As might be expected from his success last year in which he became a starter for the final eight games of the year after seeing playing time in the first three contests, Moorehead felt the adjustment from high school football to big-time college football wasn't all that difficult. "It really wasn't very hard because my high school coach (Tim Thompson) always said that during practice he was working us on a college level to get us ready for the next level," Moorehead said. "Except for the fact that everybody is just bigger and stronger in college everything kind of fell into place. I felt good. I wanted to come in and make an impact."

Moorehead was a four-year starter at Melrose, where he was first team all-state both as a junior, when his team won the state championship, and as a senior. A big-time prospect, Moorehead was recruited by the likes of Tennessee, Ohio State, Florida, Michigan, Penn State, UCLA, Colorado and Auburn before settling on Alabama. Moorehead finally whittled his list to Tennessee and Alabama before selecting the Crimson Tide. The decision created a stir in Big Orange country. "I was working as a bus boy at the Memphis Country Club where a lot of Tennessee alumni are members," Moorehead said. "I really heard a lot about it after I made my choice. Some people tried to change my mind, and I guess some of them thought that I was going to change my mind. But I picked Alabama because the defense fit my style of play. I also felt that I could fit right in and play at Alabama. Another thing was that Tennessee wanted me to play tackle, and I didn't want to play on the inside."

He said, "I've got three former (high school) teammates who play for Tennessee. Every time I go home they remind me about the national championship, but we're going to get one too."

Moorehead's decision to play for the Tide

may have opened a pipeline between Melrose and Alabama. Bama signed two more players from Melrose (19-1 when Moorehead was a junior and senior) this year. David Paine, a defensive lineman, and Derrick Woods, a wide receiver. "I'm very happy that we signed two of my former teammates," said Moorehead. "I've known Derrick all my life, going back to when we played pee-wee football together. I played two years of high school football with David."

Moorehead doesn't take credit for Alabama's continued recruiting success at Melrose. "I talked to them and told them about Alabama and that I was happy here, but I didn't try to pressure them," he said. "I told them it was their choice."

Melrose also has some other players that Moorehead thinks are good enough to play in the SEC. "Melrose has a very good football program," he said. "Dwayne Robinson (defensive tackle), Mondre Dickerson (defensive end), David Richmond (defensive back), and Anthony Stephenson (running back) will be seniors next year. They are Division I players. I haven't talked to them yet, so I don't know what they're thinking."

Tide signee Paine followed Moorehead as the top prospect in Tennessee this year and Dickerson is the odds-on favorite to have that title in the upcoming recruiting year, according to the so-called experts.

**W**hile Moorehead is not thinking about recruiting, he is thinking about getting better. New Defensive Line Coach Lance Thompson thinks that's almost a given. "Kindal is a young player, so he's only going to get better with experience," said Thompson. "He's a big kid with a tremendous amount of athletic ability. With his physical ability, he can be as good as he wants to be. He's got good feet and good quickness. He's got a chance to be an outstanding football player."

Thompson said that he tells all of his players that potential is nothing if it's not devel-





It's more than just coincidence that Kindal Moorehead was assigned jersey number 54 as a freshman at Alabama. That number has been worn by some of the Tide's finest football players, dating back particularly to legendary linebacker Lee Roy Jordan. It was also the number earned by Bama Head Coach Mike DuBose when DuBose was a star player for the Crimson Tide. Barry Fikes Photo

oped. "When everything equals out, the great players separate themselves from the pack with their minds and their motors," said Thompson. "Your mind determines your attitude, work habits, the way you look at things, how you handle setbacks and adversity. Your heart is your motor. It's emotion; it depends on how much you love the game. So it's attitude and emotion."

"If Kindal maintains a good attitude, keeps working on the intangibles, improves his knowledge of the game and keeps the motor running, he's got a chance to be a great player. He's very coachable and very accountable. He'll do what you tell him."

Thompson and Moorehead agree that the area that needs improvement is strength. Moorehead said that he spent more time in

the weight room in the off-season and knows that he is getting stronger, but because of the shoulder injury he didn't try to max his bench press to see just how much stronger he is. He also said that he wants to play at 275 pounds next season, five pounds lighter than this past year. And he wants to improve his play against the run.

Almost everyone would expect that Moorehead's biggest moment as a freshman to have been one of the three sacks he had against Vanderbilt. He scored a safety on the play in the 32-7 victory. However, he said that so far his sack against Auburn is his college highlight. "That stands out because Alabama-Auburn is such a big game," he said of the Tide's 31-17 victory. He also had a fumble recovery in that contest.

A business major with a social commitment and a strong belief in God, Moorehead said that following a hoped-for professional football career, he would like to go back to Memphis and open up a community center for inner city kids. "I grew up in the Orange Mound section of Memphis and we didn't have much to do," he related. "There was a lot of violence. I would like to give the kids some place to go after school to help keep them out of trouble. I want to be a good role model. I try to work at it."

However, before that, Moorehead said that he wants to help Alabama win another national championship and along the way become an All-America. "I love to win," he said. If he continues to progress, he should be a part of a lot of winning at Bama.



# He Takes Inspiration From Others

by Chris Olds

Redshirt freshman tailback doesn't expect to win job, but expects to make Tide better

**A**lthough he will step into the spotlight as part of the Crimson Tide backfield during the A-Day game April 17, Ahmaad Galloway knows that the job he is seeking, starting tailback, is not up for grabs at The University of Alabama. That position belongs to Heisman Trophy candidate Shaun Alexander.

No worries, no pressure. Alexander's emerging understudy knows his role when the Tide takes to the turf of Bryant-Denny Stadium in the fall and the Crimson and White are donned for Alabama's 105th season of football.

"If I do my job, and do my job to the best of my ability, then Shaun will win the Heisman," said Galloway, a redshirt freshman. "When I say this, I mean by pushing him everyday, by making him better. He's so far ahead of all of us, but without competition you can get lackadaisical. I think if I push him, knowing the person that he is, he'll get better and we'll get better as a team, so there's no pressure at all.

"I don't think people have seen the whole package of Shaun Alexander," Galloway said. "I think he has a lot more to offer." Those people won't see the entire Alexander package on A-Day, either. In all likelihood, Alexander will see limited or no playing time in the Tide's final scrimmage of the spring. That means that the 6-1, 200-pound Galloway will get his own opportunity to show Alabama fans the skills that led to him having 4,107 rushing yards and 48 touchdowns his last two years of high school. Those skills were good enough to draw recruiters from Notre Dame, Texas, Florida and Alabama to Millington, Tennessee.

It was in a high school game that Galloway's life was changed forever. On September 12, 1997, early in the second half of Millington Central High School's game against Houston High School, Galloway's 15-year-old teammate, sophomore defensive back Mario Reed, was struck in the back during a special teams play and didn't get up after the whistle. He was paralyzed from the neck down.

"They stopped the game, and beginning then I think I learned not to take any minute in life for granted," Galloway said. "I think about what happened to Mario, and I feel like if it had happened to anyone else on our team they might not have made it. I wear his number; not in sorrow, but I wear it for the fight that he has within him. I want that same fight inside me. I admire Mario so much. He's so much younger than me, and he looks up to me, but I really look up to him because he's a true champion.

"It has played a very, very big role in humbling me," he said. "I think about it day and night. That drives me, just to see his desire."

**G**alloway's desire brought him to Alabama, wearing number 29 in honor of his fallen teammate. Galloway spent his first season as a redshirt working with the practice squad where he could adjust to playing against "defensive linemen that run like DBs (defensive backs)" on the Crimson Tide's first team defensive unit.

"It wasn't really hard to redshirt because I had the decision of whether to play special teams or sit out and redshirt," Galloway said. "At first it was kind of hard watching the (road) games on TV, but then I took the time to grow as a football player and grow as a Christian. It was a good time for me to just sit out and grow."

It was during preparations for the Music City Bowl when Galloway's efforts drew the attention of Head Coach Mike DuBose, who had been grooming him for work as a strong safety. Now Galloway is on the offensive side of the ball at tailback.

"A lot of the coaches have expressed to me, even Coach DuBose himself has told me, that the things they have seen have impressed them," he said, "(but) nobody has seen the full package of what I can do. I'm still 18, and I have a lot of growing and learning to do, but I am ready to give them what I have got."

And he said he is ready to work for the opportunity.

"What's considered hard work in high school won't even get you on the practice field in college," Galloway said. "You have to work twice as hard. I think that's one of the things that separates each level: the physical demands. It's also very, very tough mentally. I think probably 90 per cent of the game is mental. It's a lot more studying film and learning situations than in high school. In high school you run because somebody says run."

While Galloway is readying for a shot at Alabama and Alexander is preparing to stake his claim in Crimson Tide history this fall, the freshman said Alexander has also had time to be a teacher both on the gridiron and off.

"In high school I came from a town where everybody said 'Ahmaad The Great. Ahmaad this, Ahmaad that.' Here, I have learned how to humble myself, and I have really learned to put God first and not use Him as a back-up plan. Shaun has shared some things with me (like that)," Galloway said. "And Shaun has taught me how to get away from linebackers when I am running routes and given me pre-snap reads on defenses."

And Galloway said it is his drive to be the best that makes him work hard and analyze his peers' games and add to his own rushing repertoire.

"The thing with running back is that each runner is going to have his own style; what's bred in him. The thing with me is that I try to look at what I do have and use that to the best of my ability and go out and get what I don't have and work that into the scheme as well. With my position, you can never stay the same. You're either getting better or you're not. If you're not, you're not in the picture."

While Galloway, who clocks a 4.42 in the 40-yard dash and bench presses 355 pounds, considers himself a natural up-the-middle power runner like Emmitt Smith, he said his exposure to stronger defensive players has made him develop more outside moves and a finesse game, and it is that which caught the attention of DuBose.



"He has told me there is no doubt that we can win a championship with me at tail-back, and, after talking with my parents, that's where I feel I belong," Galloway said. "I was always a lot stronger than everybody I played against, but now I have learned to get around guys and maneuver. I'm just learning to be a big guy who can slash whenever necessary. I have the ability to run outside and that's what is impressing them."

Assistant Coach Ivy Williams has helped him develop tremendously "out on the field," Galloway said. "And he also teaches you how to be a man." But it is his parents who give him yet another source of inspiration to work hard and succeed.

During the off season, Alabama football players are expected to work out daily. That is, once a day. "I work out twice a day and I start my day off at 5:30 a.m.," Galloway said. "A lot of people say, 'I don't know how you do it,' but it's easy. There were times when we were rock bottom, not knowing where our next meal was coming from. My father is a hard-working man. People tell me I work hard. This isn't hard work. This is a game; this is fun. I don't have to support a family doing this. To see my father, on the road, being at work at four in the morning, that's hard work."

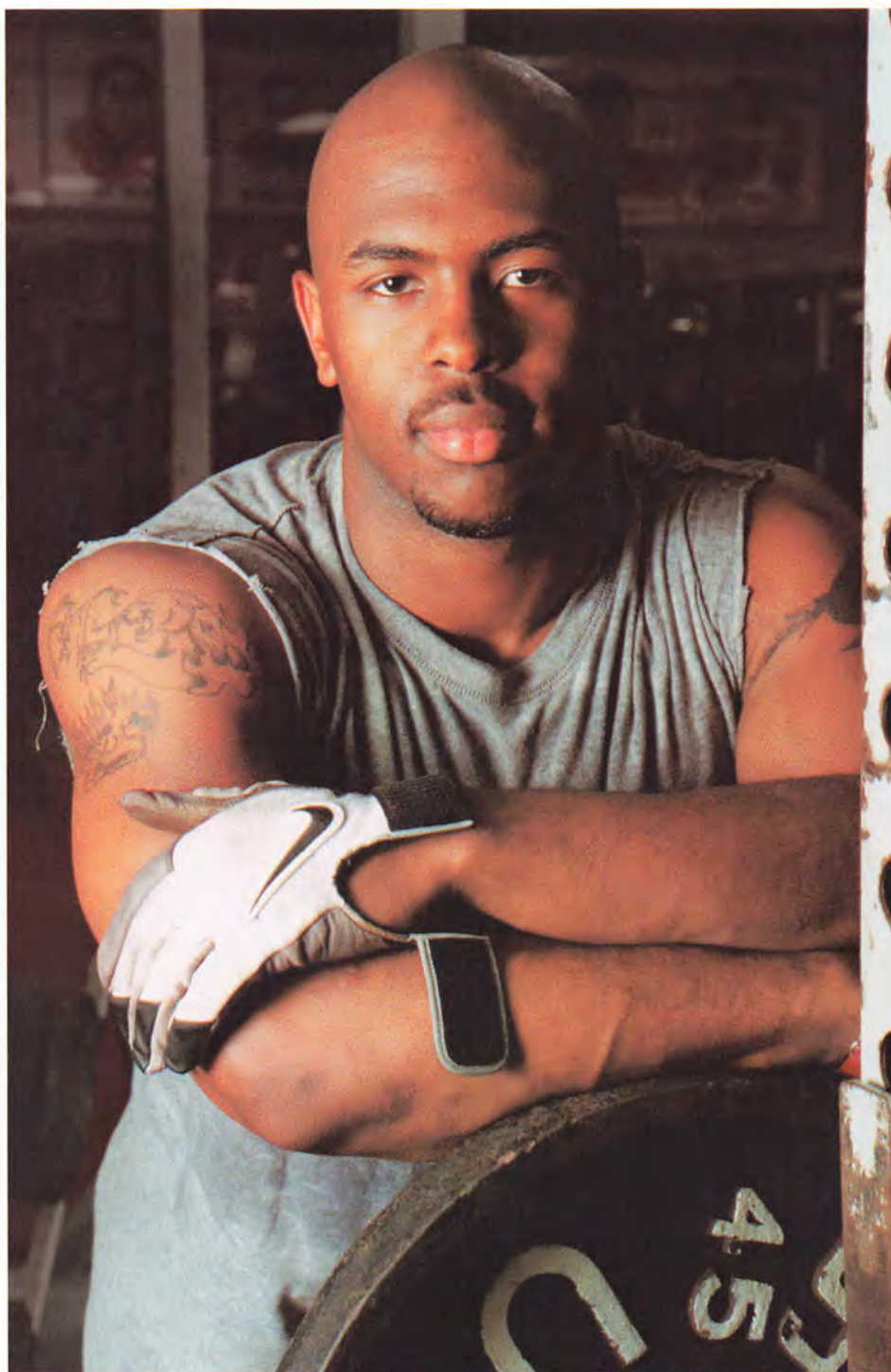
Galloway, who recorded 26 tackles as a junior cornerback in high school, also impressed Bama's premiere defensive back, the NFL-bound Fernando Bryant, earlier in the season, but said the change to offense is what has made him focus.

"This is the first year in my life that I never played defense," Galloway said. "I got recruited a lot as a corner. I visited Michigan as a corner, but there is something about offense that keeps me going."

While Galloway is now the understudy after a redshirt season, it was three years ago when a fresh-faced Shaun Alexander was coming off a redshirt year playing behind a pair of backs in Curtis Alexander and Dennis Riddle.

"I asked him about it, and he told me the thing about redshirting (and spending time behind featured backs) is that you can use it for the good or you can waste it," Galloway said. "I chose not to waste it. I chose to take every minute and every second of it and, hopefully, the outcome will be like it has been for Shaun."

Alexander waited his turn, and Alabama has his record-breaking performances against Louisiana State University, Brigham Young University and a solid junior season to show for it heading into his senior season



Ahmaad Galloway will be trying to win the back-up job to Heisman Trophy candidate Shaun Alexander during spring football practice.  
Barry Fikes Photo

full of individual and team expectations. Galloway says his goals are just as high, both for himself and the Tide.

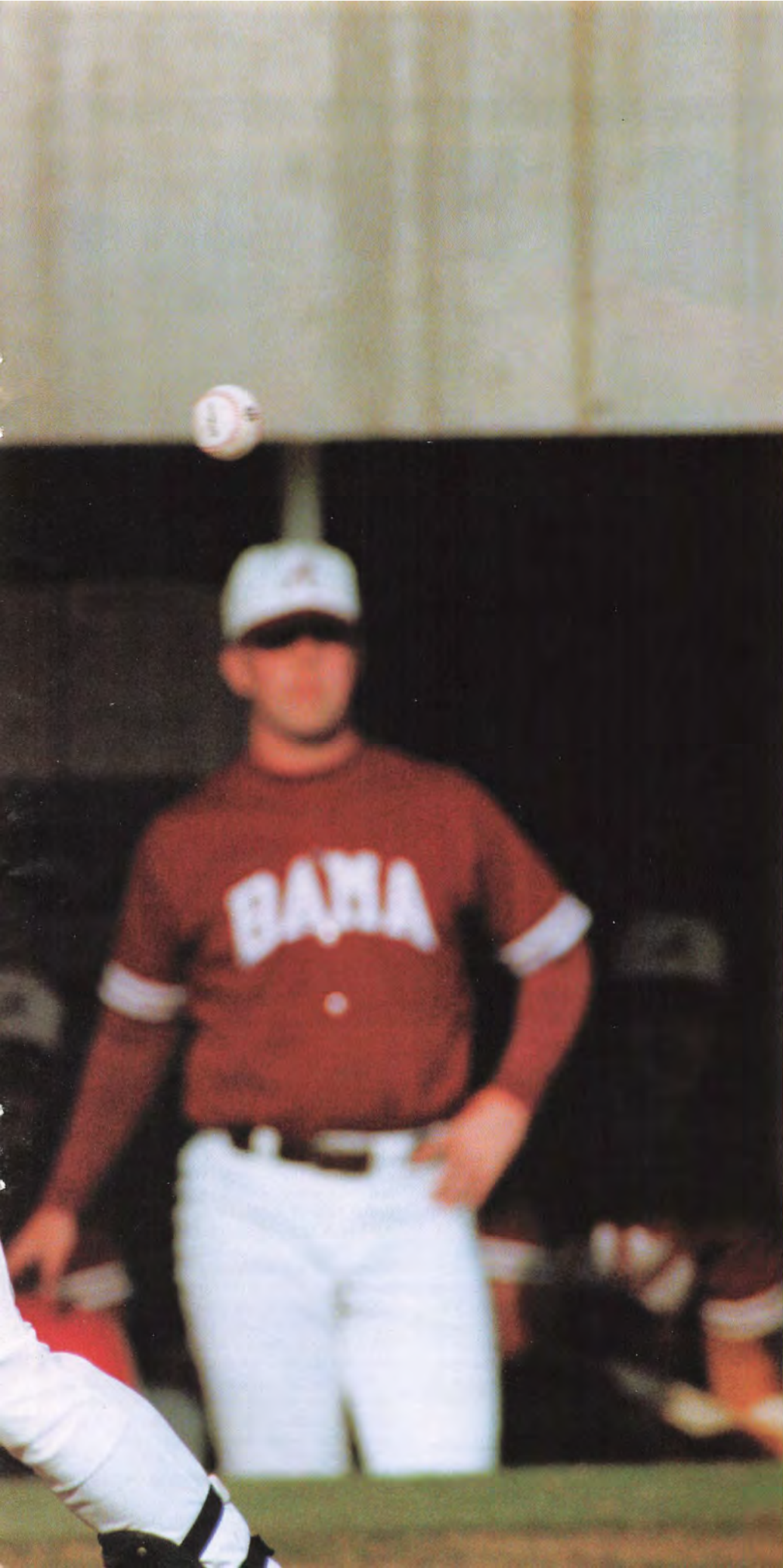
"Next season, I would like for our team, if Shaun were to ever get hurt or anything, for us to not miss a beat offensively," Galloway

said. "That's hard to do with a guy like Shaun because he makes so many plays, but in order for us to win, we are going to need to be deeper than Shaun and deeper at every position. My goal is to go out there and, if he goes down, for us not to miss a beat."









**G.W. Keller:**

## He's Become Prolific Long Ball Hitter

by Peter Edmund

Californian should finish with career homer record

Fans talk about how far the baseball travels off the bat of G.W. Keller, but it's somehow fitting that the senior who traveled 3,000 miles to play college baseball for Coach Jim Wells and The University of Alabama is a long distance man.

At 5-8, 190 pounds, the Bakersfield, California, native is not your typical power hitter. He is not built like Mark McGwire. He can not hit the ball off rooftops like Reggie Jackson. And, he doesn't point and then hit the ball in that direction like the legendary Babe Ruth.

However, Gary Wayne Keller can hit. He can hit for average, hit with power, and hit to all fields. And he has been a hit with Tide baseball fans since his arrival on campus in 1996.

Keller credits his ability to hit to all his coaches and traces those roots all the way back to his Little League days in Bakersfield. "At a very young age, my coaches would talk to me about my swing," Keller said. "They spent a lot of time with me everyday. They would show me the things I had done wrong and what we needed to do to correct those mistakes."

Despite a stellar career at West High School in Bakersfield, very few major college baseball programs showed interest in Keller. So, he opted to stay home and play for Coach Tim Painton at Bakersfield Community College, where he would finally be discovered. In his lone season at BCC, Keller turned the heads of everyone in the stands and on the field. As the starting shortstop, Keller hit .350 with 11 home runs and 50 runs batted in. The 11 home runs set a single-season record at Bakersfield. He was named Most Valuable Player of his team and conference. Keller was also tabbed first-team All-Western Conference and First-Team All-Southern California. *Baseball America* and *Collegiate Baseball* called him one of the nation's top junior college infielders.

And major college recruiters called him all the time. Keller got letters from Alabama,

G.W. Keller leads the Crimson Tide baseball team in home run hitting this year and is on track to set a new Alabama record for homers.

Barry Fikes Photo





G.W. Keller was a high school and junior college shortstop, but he's become a top outfielder since leaving California to be a member of the Alabama baseball team. He is a versatile player who has seen action at several positions for Coach Jim Wells, but he's best known now for his hitting. Barry Fikes Photo

USC, UCLA and Long Beach State. The decision was a tough one. But one that he is comfortable with.

After a summer visit to Tuscaloosa, Keller narrowed his choices to Alabama and USC. After the visit, Alabama offered him a scholarship. Keller talked the decision over with his parents and then made up his mind. "It was getting late in the summer and Alabama had made me a good offer," Keller said. "USC was still very interested and they were waiting to see if any money would be available for me."

[In college baseball, schools have a total of 11.7 scholarships and scholarship money can be divided so that a couple of dozen players are getting some financial aid. Almost no college baseball player is on full scholarship.]

Keller said, "After I made up my mind and told Alabama I was coming, Coach (Mike) Gillespie called and offered me a chance to play at USC. I told him I was going to Alabama, and he wished me all the best.

"Alabama was an opportunity to get away from California," he added. "The fan support and atmosphere is so much greater than anything going in California. Alabama also offered me a chance to play in the College World Series, which has been a dream of mine since I was playing in Little League. I'm glad I made the decision to come here. It has been great for me."

**I**n addition to his ability to hit, Keller also knows a good thing when he sees one. Alabama (1997), USC (1998), UCLA

(1997), and Long Beach State (1998) have all been to the College World Series in the last two years, with USC winning the national title in 1998. In Keller's first year at Alabama the Crimson Tide and Trojans played in the NCAA South II Regional in Tuscaloosa and eventually met for the championship and the berth into the CWS.

"It was quite ironic that USC came to our regional," Keller said. "The two schools that offered me a chance to go to college were now in a battle to go to Omaha.

"Coach Gillespie told me that I had an outstanding season and that he wished me and the team all the best in Omaha. It was nice of him to say those things to me."

Alabama won a hard-fought 9-8 game with the Trojans. The lead changed hands five



times before the Tide finally prevailed on Matt Frick's two-out, solo homer in the bottom of the 10th inning.

Keller could have been nothing more than a footnote, so to speak, in that Regional Championship Game, but he turned out to be a key player. He started the game in left field for the injured Roberto Vaz, who had stepped on a baseball during pregame batting practice and broken his foot. That injury would end Vaz's college career, forcing him to miss the title game and the College World Series. Keller was an admirable substitute, though. He went one-for-five with a double, but made the most noise in the field. He threw out two runners at home plate, including the potential tying run in the eighth inning and the potential winning run in the ninth. Those were his only two outfield assists of the year. It was not a bad day for a shortstop who played the outfield in 1996 for the first time in his life.

"Playing the outfield was something new to me," Keller said. "I had never done it before until I came to Alabama. I made my goal to be the best outfielder I could be and to get better each day. I am comfortable with any position that I play, especially after last year with all the switching I did from outfield to third base."

Keller has played every position at Alabama except shortstop, pitcher and catcher, but would love the opportunity to give all three the old college try. "I am itching to play shortstop, because I know I can," he added. "I'd love to play all nine positions. And I'd do it in the same game if I could."

As a sophomore, Keller hit an astounding 369 (92-for-249) in 69 games. He added 21 home runs and 68 RBI en route to being named second team All-Southeastern Conference. He hit three home runs in two days against Louisiana Tech (February 18-19), the first two starts of his Alabama career. He led the Tide to the SEC Tournament Championship and the NCAA South II Regional title.

Keller was named to the South II Regional All-Tournament team and the College World Series All-Tournament team. In the Tide's win over Miami, Keller made a game-saving catch in left field with the Tide up by two runs in the ninth inning. His effort earned him CNN Play of the Day honors.

**I**t was after the 1997 season that Keller knew he was a legitimate college home run hitter. "I knew I had the potential to hit for average in high school," Keller said. "I did not really hit for power until junior college. I did not know for sure I would hit a lot of home runs until my sophomore year here when I hit 21 home runs."

Keller's 21 dingers made him one of four Bama players with 20-or-more home runs in 1997, a NCAA record. Dustan Mohr (25), Roberto Vaz (22) and Robbie Tucker (20) were the others as the Tide advanced to the national championship game of the College World Series.

"I was kind of surprised because I was not trying to hit home runs. I just wanted to hit the ball as hard as I could each time at the plate."

Last year, the hitting continued. Keller led the team with a .377 (93-for-247) average with 14 home runs and 62 RBI. He was named second-team All-SEC for the second year in a row. He was also a member of the NCAA West Regional All-Tournament team. Keller batted a tournament-high .545 (12-for-22) with two home runs and 10 RBI.

He was also named SEC Player of the Week for his phenomenal weekend series against Tennessee (April 10-12). Keller hit .667 (8-for-12) against the Vols and compiled a 1.250 slugging percentage and a .714 on-base mark. He had seven hits in the final two games of the series as Bama swept UT in Tuscaloosa.

Keller and teammate Andy Phillips (the two are also roommates this year) opened the 1999 season chasing the school's career home run record. Both Keller and Phillips are featured on the cover of the school's baseball media guide promoting the record chase. Keller entered the year with three less homers than Phillips, but after 17 games had taken the lead. As the SEC portion of the schedule was to begin, Keller had a team-leading six homers, while Phillips had one. That gave Keller 41 career homers to Phillips' 40 dingers. The school record is 50, set by Doug Duke from 1984-86.

Keller took the lead away from Phillips with a school record-tying three home run game against Niagara on March 7. Keller hit a two-run homer in the fourth inning and then hit two more home runs in the fifth. He led off the 11-run inning with a solo blast and tied another school record with a two-run homer, his second of the inning. The three home runs came in consecutive at-bats and in only five pitches. "I don't really care about the record," Keller said. Then he added, "Except for this: I hope we both shatter the record, because if we do that means our team will be doing well and we can get back to Omaha and win the national championship."

"Andy and I pull for each other. He is happy for me when I hit a home run and I am happy for him when he hits a home run. The bottom line is for the team to be successful."

Both were extraordinarily happy as the Crimson Tide opened SEC play in Knoxville on March 12. In the ninth inning, Keller slammed a grand slam home run for the winning runs in Bama's eight-run stanza as Bama gave Wells his 400th career victory. And Phillips closed out the inning with his 41st career home run. In that game Keller had five runs batted in to become the third Alabama player with 200 career hits, 150 career RBI, and 40 career homers. He joined Dustan Mohr (1995-97) and teammate Phillips, who had reached the goal earlier this season.



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# Youth Movement Has Paid Off

by Andrew Varble II:

Six freshmen and five sophomores play key roles in Crimson Tide's title aspirations

At the beginning of this season, Alabama Gymnastics Coach Sarah Patterson said that the 1999 edition of the Crimson Tide could be very good. She also said that how good would depend on how her freshmen performed. The 21-year veteran also intimated that if everything came together, and everyone stayed healthy, the sky was the limit.

Give the coach a gold star. So far, everything she predicted has come true. Despite having an extremely young team, six freshmen and five sophomores, Alabama has produced some of its highest scores in team history, including a pair of 197-plus

scores that are the top regular season marks ever for Alabama.

Heading into the championship season, which was to start with the Tide-hosted Southeastern Conference Championships in Coleman Coliseum March 27, Alabama has posted the highest score of the season, a 197.825 against LSU, and the highest per meet average of the season.

The rankings are currently based on the Regional Qualifying Score, which is derived by taking a team's top two home scores, top two away scores and the next two highest scores, dropping the high and the low, and averaging the remainder. By

that rather involved method, the Tide is number two at the end of the regular season. Conference rival Georgia is currently the nation's number one team, just tenths of a point ahead of the Tide. Perennial powerhouse Utah follows Alabama. Penn State comes in at number four, followed by LSU.

Alabama's high scores and high rankings, which includes four weeks at number one this season, have come from a balanced attack that has drawn liberally on the Tide's newfound depth.

"This is as deep a team as we have ever had at Alabama," Patterson said. "If some-

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one is having an off night, or is banged up, we can substitute someone else in and not compromise our scoring potential at all."

Case in point: Alabama's second highest mark of the season, a 197.800 at UMass, came from a make-shift lineup that was clean in execution. Patterson went into the meet trying to rest some of the regulars and gain experience for some athletes who needed it. Two weeks later, a hard landing by senior Gwen Spidle and a bout of the flu for sophomore Robin Hawkins and the Tide again had to juggle its lineup. This time the Tide, despite counting a fall in its floor exercise score, was able to down Kentucky, but also post a 196.875, its highest home score of the season to that point.

Hawkins soon recovered from the flu and continued what has been a remarkable season for the sophomore. The Memphis, Tennessee, native tore her anterior cruciate ligament during the middle of last season. Despite that fact, she was named SEC Freshman of the Year. She put in hard work in rehabilitating the knee and was ready to return to the lineup when the Tide got started in January. Through her first four meets she had competed in every possible event and chalked up a win in the all-around against Ohio State in the Tide's opener. The coaches have backed her off a bit and the flu kept her out of the last three events of the Kentucky meet, but Hawkins still competed in 34 of a possible 44 events this season.

Spidle has almost completely recovered from her banged up ankle. The senior All-America was already seeing spot duty due to a body that has suffered the strain of a gymnastics career. The Gallatin, Missouri, native is still a fierce competitor and one that the coaches know will be there when needed. Limiting her competition is an effort to save her for the championship season, not a question of her ability. As Patterson put it early in the season, "I know beyond a shadow of a doubt that Gwen is going to be able to go whenever we need her. She is so mentally tough and such a competitive veteran, we know she'll be there when we call on her."

Spidle, and fellow senior Mandy Chapman have done a good job of helping the coaches prepare the six freshmen for the season. Both seniors have spent almost as much time teaching the rookies what to expect and how to react as they have on their own routines. Their



André Pickens has been outstanding as a freshman for the Crimson Tide. Her 39.7 all-around score that led Bama to victory over fifth-ranked LSU was the third highest all-around mark in Crimson Tide gymnastics history.  
Kent Gidley Photo

tutelage along with that of the coaching staff has meant few if any missteps to this point in the season.

"With such a large freshman class, the contributions that Gwen and Mandy have made leading this team have been crucial," Patterson said. "It's hard enough when you

have two or three (freshmen), but to have six...Well, we would not be where we are without those two showing the freshmen the way."

Chapman has also been producing some of the best scores of her career, including a pair of career best marks in a win against





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LSU, during which Alabama scored a season best 197.825.

And how has the Tide's much-heralded 'Super Six' freshmen done? So far they have provided nearly half of the Tide's routines. Andree Pickens has exploded onto the national scene and is currently ranked number two in the all-around and number one on the uneven bars. She was the first freshman in the country to score a perfect 10 this season. She is also the first Tide freshman to ever score a 10. She is only the second Alabama gymnast to post a perfect score on the uneven bars, and the only gymnast to do so twice in her career. She is only the second Alabama gymnast to score two 10s in one meet. Kim Kelly was the first in 1996. Pickens has scored four 10s as a freshman, two each on the vault and the bars. Kelly holds the school record for career 10s at nine, a mark that Pickens is more than on pace to break.

Pickens isn't the only frosh to post a perfect mark. Raegan Tomasek also has been perfect this season, against UMass on the balance beam. In fact, Pickens posted two perfect marks at that meet, making it the first time that Alabama has had three 10s in one meet.

Natalie Barrington has come on strong in the uneven bars, ranked sixth nationally with a career best of 9.95 at Penn State. Barrington is the Tide's first international gymnast, hailing from Mississauga, Canada. Rookie Whitney Morgan has come on strong toward the end of the regular season and is routinely seeing action in two to three events each meet.

Freshman Alexa Martinez got out of the gate quickly, but landed just a bit off on a vault in a win against Florida and hyper extended her knee. Patterson and company decided to back her off and give the knee a chance to heal before returning the Leander, Texas, native to the lineup, a benefit of the Tide's depth. Martinez is back now and posting some of Alabama's top floor and balance beam marks. Krista Gole has provided solid scores whenever she has been in the lineup, giving Alabama solid depth on the vault and floor exercise.

**A**labama's sophomore class, five strong, has come back just as strong this season as it did last year when it was leading Alabama back to the podium at the NCAA Championships as freshmen. Lissy Smith has been the rock on which the Tide's balance beam attack has

been built. She has yet to fall this season and has scored consistently in the 9.8 to 9.9 range including a career best 9.975 against UMass. Katie Hornecker has developed into one of the Tide's top vaulters over the last several meets of the season. She posted a career best 9.9 against LSU in the last regular season home meet of the season.

Birmingham native Dara Stewart has come back strong after an All-America freshman campaign. In addition to being one of the Tide's top uneven bars performers (she's currently ranked number nine nationally), she has pushed her way into the vault and balance beam lineup as well.

Sophomore April Makinson has spent most of the season recovering from preseason wrist surgery, but has put herself in a position to step into the lineup whenever needed. Juniors Lexa Evans and Gina Logan have both done the same. Evans has already answered the call this season on the floor exercise, including a career best mark against LSU when both Spidle and Hawkins were sidelined.

Now with the regular season behind them, Alabama is ready to see what posting its highest scoring dual meet average ever means during championship competition. Patterson and her staff have a solid reputation of having their athletes at their best in the post season, a fact that has led to three NCAA Championships. Alabama was not the most talented team on the floor during any of those championships, nor in the seven other times in the past 11 years that Alabama has finished in the top three at the NCAA Championships.

So this year, with the talent gap far smaller for Alabama than ever before, the question is will youth prevail over the experience of such squads as the senior-heavy defending NCAA Champion Georgia Bulldogs and Penn State. Alabama also has to keep an eye on the balanced attack of LSU and the equally young Utah Utes.

Patterson is making no predictions. She knows that the championship season is a funny time of year and it is hard to say how such a young team, with 11 freshmen and sophomores, will react. But if the Tide can continue in the cool, calm and collected way it has through the first 11 meets of the year, a title, be it SEC or NCAA, could well be in the Tide's immediate future.

And the future, 11 strong, is bright indeed for one of the nation's proudest programs.





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# Recruiting Work Not Yet Finished

by James Edwards

After landing excellent signees in early period, Gottfried seeks more stars

Mark Gottfried came to Alabama as head basketball coach a year ago with a number of goals, all of them leading to or leading from having a championship contending team. He wants to have Coleman Coliseum filled for each game, which he thinks will come with an exciting, winning basketball team. And while Gottfried proved in his first year that he is an exceptional basketball coach, Alabama's 17-15 record and the Crimson Tide's inconsistency (the ability to beat Kentucky and Arkansas and play close games against the likes of Ohio State, and yet suffer blowout losses) are evidence that a team must have a roster of quality players in order to succeed at the level this coach aspires.

Good players come with good recruiting, the ability to judge talented players, then sign them. While Gottfried inherited a few good men, he knows that he needs more. This year's team will have Brian Williams, Chauncey Jones, MC Mazique and Chris Rollins departing. All were regulars, starters for all or most of the year, and so Gottfried has a valuable commodity to sell to prospects. Players want playing time, and Bama has it available beginning immediately.

Too often, Alabama recruiting has appeared to center on a very few prospects. If Bama did not land those, the fall-back position was far back. A look at the prospects linked to Alabama this year shows that Gottfried is recruiting the nation's best, and a large number of them. If one blue-chipper opts for another school, Gottfried will have another one on his recruiting list.

Alabama replaced all of its departing seniors with signees in the early signing period last November. Those four signees are 6-8 center Erwin Dudley of R.C. Hatch in Uniontown; 6-2 guard Terrance Meade of Scottsboro; 6-8 wing player Rod Grizzard of Central Park Christian in Birmingham; and 6-9 power forward Kenny Walker of Wolfson High School in Jacksonville, Florida. Dudley and Grizzard were recently named first team all-state, while Meade, who suffered a late-season knee injury, was honorable mention.

One of those early signees finished his season with great success, then survived a harrowing accident on the trip home from leading his team to a national championship. Central Park Christian of Birmingham won its third straight National Christian Academy title with an 81-78 victory over Montrose

Christian of Rockville, Maryland, as Grizzard scored 40 points in the championship game. On the ride home from Dayton, Tennessee, the Central Park Christian team van suffered a blowout, and flipped upside down. Fortunately, there were no serious injuries.

This early signing group has Alabama ranked among the nation's best, a consensus top ten, by the basketball recruiting experts. All four of these players are or have been rated in the nation's 100 elite players. Grizzard was number 17, Dudley number 34, Walker number 44, and Meade number 84.

Dudley averaged 21.3 points, 17.4 rebounds, 3.7 blocks, and 3.4 assists per game as a senior. He was a three-year starter, 80 consecutive games, and averaged 23.3 points (1,851 total), 15.0 rebounds (1,278), 3.9 blocked shots (309), and 2.7 assists (214). He had double-doubles in 73 out of his 80 career games and scored in double digits in 78 out of them. He had two career triple doubles (points/rebounds/blocks). *The Birmingham News* named him to its 1999 all-state team, and he was named Super Five by the Alabama SportsWriters Association as well as the American General/Alabama Sports Writers 3A Player of the Year. He was the area tournament MVP and was all-tournament at the Southwest Regional. His team finished 18-9, falling in overtime in the Southwest Regional finals. Dudley was a 1997 and 1998 NIKE camp participant.

Grizzard was MVP in leading Central Park Christian to the national championship at the National Association of Christian Athletes tournament in Dayton, Tennessee in March. It was the school's seventh NACA title and third in a row. Grizzard scored 40 points against a 7-1 defender in the championship game (16-21 field goals, including five three-point shots and three-of-three free throws). Grizzard scored 32 points in the NACA semifinals, and had 22 points in a first round NACA blowout (he played less than three quarters). Grizzard, a 1998 NIKE camp participant, averaged 26.1 points, 7.1 rebounds, 4.5 assists, 3.4 steals and 2.4 blocks a game this past season. He shot 54.2 per cent from the field, 42 per cent from three-point range, and 87.3 per cent at the free throw line. He had a career-high 48 points in a game as a senior. He was all-state by *The Birmingham News* and the private schools player of the year by American General/Alabama Sports Writers.

Meade's senior season was limited because in the early part of the year he suffered a turned ankle, then played some nine games after suffering a slight ligament tear in his knee. He played in a total of 21 games, averaging 17.6 points, 4.5 rebounds, and 4.9 assists per game. He shot 38.6 per cent from the field, 30.5 per cent from three-point range, and 78 per cent on foul shots. He was honorable mention all-state. He had a high game of 36 points.

Walker had another excellent season, aver-

aging 18 points, 12 rebounds, and six blocked shots per game.

While the early signing period was very good for Alabama, Gottfried and his staff are not resting on their laurels. The Crimson Tide has been linked with a number of the nation's top players for the spring signing period. That period begins April 7. Here are some to watch as potential Bama signees:

Antonio Jackson, 6-5, 205, swing guard from Butler (Kansas) Community College, is originally from Butler High School in Huntsville, where he played for one of the nation's best prep coaches, Jack Doss. He has been listed as the best swing guard in the junior college ranks and he solidified that his sophomore year. He averaged 17 points, six rebounds, and six assists per game. Jackson posted two triple doubles against two junior college national top 10 teams. He was recently named most valuable player in his conference. Alabama is considered the leader over the likes of Kentucky and Kansas, with Connecticut perhaps the team to beat.

Derrick Zimmerman, 6-3, 180, point guard from Wossman High School in Monroe, Louisiana, is one of the nation's best remaining players, and a true superstar prospect. He played for his dad, and he displays that coach's son court presence. He is a national recruit who came very close to averaging a triple double his senior year. He averaged 33 points, 11 rebounds, and nine assists in leading his team to the Class 4A State semifinals, where Wossman lost to the state's number one team. Zimmerman was a 4 per cent shooter from the field and 41 per cent on three-pointers. He is being courted nationally and is looking closely at Alabama, with Tulane considered to be Bama's top competition. Others who have been mentioned with Zimmerman include Minnesota, Texas, Auburn, Clemson, LSU, and Purdue.

Marcus Haislip, 6-8, 212, post man from Marshall County High School in Lewisburg, Tennessee, became a hot commodity late in the season. He dominated at the level he plays and can step up his game against stronger competition. He can control the inside or he has the touch to step out and make the 15-footers consistently. He averaged 19 points and nine rebounds as a senior. Alabama and Tennessee are battling for his services.

Torris Bright, 6-4, 185, shooting guard from Slidell (Louisiana) High School, is perhaps the nation's most prolific high school scorer. He is an unselfish player who can really light it up at times. He blistered the nets for 51 points in one game and an amazing 70 points in another. There were several other contests where he could have poured it on, but he just passed the ball. He finished his senior year with a 35-point, 14-assist average. He has set his five official visits to Alabama, LSU, TCU, Connecticut, and Rutgers. Providence and



Tulane could also receive consideration.

Corey Hughes, 6-4, 195, swing guard from Coffee High School in Florence, is a tremendous player who was having an excellent senior season before suffering blood clots in his legs. He was consistently above the 20-point mark and leading his team to a run at the state championship. The adversity hampered his senior year, but not career. He probably will start out in a prep school, and could get attention from Alabama for next year's class.

Schea Cotton, 6-6, 210, shooting guard/small forward from Long Beach (California) Community College, is a well traveled player who could be considered the nation's top junior college prospect. He has faced several ups and downs in his career. He came out of St Johns Boscoe High School in Bellflower, California, as one of the nation's top five players. He signed with Long Beach State so that he could play with his brother, James Cotton who was a junior. However his brother went pro early and was drafted by the Seattle Supersonics. Schea then had no desire to go there and sat out before being recruited to UCLA. He entered school, but was notified by the NCAA that his qualifying test score was not accepted. He then entered St. Thomas More Prep School in Connecticut. He then signed with North Carolina State and he was once again notified by the NCAA that his test score was being invalidated. He then entered Long Beach Community College where the NCAA has informed him that they were wrong and that he was qualified. He averaged 26 points, 10 rebounds, and four assists. Many believe he will play college basketball for just one season before making himself eligible for the NBA draft. Rhode Island, Alabama, Oregon State, UCLA, and South Florida are getting visits from Cotton.

Alonzo Lane, 6-5, 245, power forward from Canton (Mississippi) High School, is the Magnolia State's number two prospect. He averaged 26 points, 14 rebounds, and two blocks

his senior year. He is rated the number 92 player in the country. He is interested in Alabama, Arkansas, Ole Miss, Mississippi State, Murray State, Georgia, and Southern Miss.

Marshall Williams, 6-5, 200, shooting forward from Vincent High School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is another super scorer who is excellent in every phase of the game. He is rated the number 25 player in America by one recruiting source. He is smooth off the dribble and he is deadly from three-point range. He averaged 22 points and 9 rebounds as a senior. He is being touted nationally and will make his decision between the likes of Alabama, Rhode Island, North Carolina State, Georgia Tech, Memphis, Iowa, and Colorado.

Tyrone Hayes, 6-5, 190, shooting guard from Josey High School in Augusta, Georgia, is a talented scorer who has been overlooked by some regional evaluators, but not many colleges. He is the fourth best player in the Peach State, and he rates as the nation's 80th best player. He averaged 25 points, nine rebounds, four assists, and four blocks as a senior. He is looking at Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, and College of Charleston.

Andy Slocum, 6-11, 240, center from West Monroe High School in West Monroe, Louisiana, is a massive front-liner who has a soft touch in the lane and is hard to handle on the boards. He averaged 20 points, 15 rebounds, and four blocks as a junior. He is being evaluated by Alabama, Utah, Notre Dame, Texas A&M, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, LSU, and Vanderbilt.

With his eighth straight 20-win season in the books, Alabama Women's Basketball Coach Rick Moody is now busy on the recruiting trails. Not only does he have to replace all-everything Dominique Canty, but he also must find a couple of players to fill the vacated post positions of Latrish Jones and LaToya Caudle.

The Crimson Tide signed Ferris Peters, a 6-1 forward from Baton Rouge, La., in the NCAA's early signing period and will look to add several players in the upcoming signing period.

Alabama has received verbal commitments from a pair of the state's top prep prospects as Hoover's Leigh Papisan and Alana Sinyard of Lauderdale County have agreed to play at the Capstone. Papisan, *The Birmingham News'* Metro Player of the Year and a Super All-State performer, is a 6-1 post player who could eventually develop into a solid contributor for the Tide. Sinyard, a 5-10 guard, is considered a year away from making an impact in college, but was also first team all-state.

Bama has also gotten a verbal commitment from former Alabama prep standout Yalika "Boo" Barnes of Trinity Valley Community College in Texas. Barnes, who signed with the Tide out of Carver (Montgomery) High School, is a 5-9 guard with skills as a scorer, passer and defender. She is a candidate for the National Junior College Player of the Year.

Another junior college guard, Taquilla Allen of Northwest Shoals Community College, has also committed to the Tide. At 5-9, Allen is one of the most athletic players in the Alabama junior college ranks. Both she and Barnes will likely make immediate impacts on the Tide roster next season.

In addition to these commitments, Moody is also turning over every rock in search of some big, athletic post players. There are several possible prospects at that position. Shala Crawford, a 6-5 center from Coffeetown (Kansas) Community College, and Gintare Cipinyte, 6-4 forward from Seward County Community College in Kansas, are both on the Tide wish list. Either of these two would give the Tide a height dimension that Moody has never enjoyed in his decade at The Capstone. Alabama is also looking closely at a pair of junior college forwards in Valeria Jackson of Selma Wallace Community College and Sparkle Smith of Trinity Valley.

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*Beginning October 1st*



# Bama Has The Summer Answers

by Donna Fromme

There are sports camps for almost everyone

Could your eight-year old be the next Tiger Woods? Does your daughter's serve need a little more spin? Can you think of anything more fun for your Alabama baseball-crazy kid than spending time playing side-by-side with the Tide's coaches and players? Do you think your half pint could grow into the point guard that could take a basketball team to the Final Four? And wouldn't it be great if you could not only get the kids out of the house for a few days but make it be a guilt-free trip since they'd be having the time of their lives while still under round the clock supervision?

The Crimson Tide has your answers. Alabama's coaches offer summertime camps in virtually every sport from soccer to football to cheerleading and even athletic training. The camps are held on campus, usually offering housing in The University's dormitories and well-balanced meals in The University's campus cafeterias. The campers are under 24-hour supervision when they stay on campus as the counselors, many of them Crimson Tide athletes and high school coaches, stay in the dorms with the youngsters.

The camps are outstanding tools to help your child perfect his or her skills, and they are also a fun way for your kids to not only meet Alabama's coaches on an informal basis but for your children to meet and mingle with other youngsters from all over the state and outside of Alabama as well. Most camps allow you to pick a roommate if a sibling or close friend is attending that session. And the staff will provide overnight campers with a list of items they'll need during their stay on campus (sports equipment, sunscreen, sheets, pillows, etc.). And most camps offer diversions, like evening swims or movie viewing.

Following is some basic information on some of the camps that will be held on campus this summer:

### Football

The 1999 Alabama football camp will be held the second week in June. Coach Mike DuBose and his football coaching staff will conduct the camp. The camp includes instruction for high school and junior high campers and includes all positions except kicking. The first session is June 6-9 and the second session is June 9-12. Alabama also offers a Junior Camp for grades 2-5 during the second session only. The cost of the camp is \$250 per session. For more information on football camp, call the Camp Line at (205)

348-0808 and leave your name and address. A camp brochure will then be mailed to you at that address.

### Golf

Dick Spybey, who holds the distinction of being named District Coach of the Year and Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year as both a men's and women's golf coach, leads the Alabama Crimson Tide Golf Academy which includes sessions for both boys and girls. The camp offers three sessions. June 13-17 is the co-ed camp. It's for ages 10-17. Boys ages 10-17 can attend a June 20-24 session, and golfers ages 13-17 can attend the June 27-July 1 session. Cost for any of those sessions is \$625 for overnight campers or \$425 for day campers. This is the 15th year Spybey has conducted the camp and enrollment is limited to the first 40 applicants (per session) to give a 5:1 student-teacher ratio. For more information, write: Crimson Tide Golf Academy, c/o Dick Spybey, 2011 Brandonwood Road, Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 or call the golf office (205) 348-6161.

### Baseball

Due to construction that will be going on at Sewell-Thomas Stadium, for this summer only dates are limited for the Crimson Tide's popular baseball camp. Camp sessions will be June 28-July 1 and July 12-15. A specialized camp for junior high and high school pitchers and catchers will be July 5-8. For complete information on Alabama's baseball camps, call Jim Gatewood in the Tide baseball office at (205) 348-5258 or write: Alabama Baseball Camp, Attn. Jim Gatewood, P.O. Box 870391, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487.

### Girls Basketball

Who better to teach your daughter how to play the game than a man who has taken his Tide team to the Final Four and a string of Sweet 16 appearances? Tide Women's Basketball Coach Rick Moody hosts three sessions of girls camp. Individual camp is June 13-16 (\$265 overnight with a \$15 discount for registration by May 1, \$235 per camper for groups of four or more, or \$200 for day campers). Team Camp is June 11-13 (\$100 per person for overnight campers, \$65 per person for day campers). And Position Camp is June 16-18 (\$190 per person for overnight campers and \$140 for day campers). For more information, contact Rebecca Lobo's old New York Liberty (WNBA) teammate, Tide Assistant Coach Cassandra Moorat at (205) 348-6164 or 348-7077 or write her at P.O. Box 870393, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487.

### Boys Basketball

Who better to send your son off to than the father of five who helped coach a team (UCLA) to a national championship and led his teams to post season play every year since he was a sophomore at Alabama in 1985? The Mark Gottfried Basketball Camp is a popular one on campus and offers five different ses-

sions, including one of his favorites, the June 18-19 Father/Son Camp that gives kids and fathers bonding time and teaches dads a few tricks in techniques that can help them work with their boys on their basketball games. Father/Son camp tips off the basketball camp season and costs \$190 for boarders (dads with their sons in the same dorm room) or \$175 for day campers. Individual camp, for ages 8 to high school seniors, is June 20-24 and costs \$285 for boarders, \$235 for day campers. Team Camp will be held June 24-26 and costs \$150 for boarders/\$100 for commuters. There's a Day Camp (no overnight campers) held June 28-July 1 for ages 5-12 that costs \$105, and the final event, Shooting Camp which encompasses ages 5 through upcoming high schools seniors, will be on July 2. That cost is \$50. You never know who will pop in on the popular coach's camp. Last summer, among his guest lecturers was the Los Angeles Lakers' Robert Horry who helped guide the Houston Rockets to back-to-back NBA world championships. For more information, write to: Mark Gottfried Basketball Camp, P.O. Box 870393, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487 or call the basketball office at (205) 348-6161.

### Cheerleader/Dance

Several sessions for both cheerleaders and dancers are made available for groups and individuals, and they're headed by Alabama's award-winning squads. Tide Cheerleader Coach Debbie Purifoy is the contact (205) 348-3636 (or by email, dpurifoy@ia.ua.edu) who can give all the information, including dates and costs. There are five different cheer camp sessions, a junior cheer camp, a college prep cheer camp, and a college cheer camp as well as two dance camp sessions. The first cheer camp session is May 25-28, and the camps run through the final session, the July 30-August 2 college camp.

### Gymnastics

Alabama is a national power in women's gymnastics with three national championships since 1988, and its coaching staff as well as a team of former Tide gymnasts and private club coaches are ready to teach budding national champions or beginners the keys to success. Three camp sessions are offered, June 13-17, June 20-24 and July 25-29. Cost is \$425 per session for residents (overnight campers must be nine years or older) or \$275 for day campers (must be 7 years or older). For more information, call (205) 348-4578 or write: Alabama Gymnastics Camp, P.O. Box 870393, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487.

### Softball

Tide Softball Coach Patrick Murphy, producer of the 1998 NCAA home run leader, heads a talented staff for the Crimson Tide Softball Camp. The camp covers all skills of the fastpitch game. Murphy's staff is a bud-



ding softball star's dream. It also includes his Alabama assistant coaches former All-America catcher Karen Johns and former All-America first baseman Alyson Habetz in addition to other collegiate coaches who will travel to Tuscaloosa as instructors. For more information, call (205) 348-6161 or write Coach Patrick Murphy at P.O. Box 870391, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487.

#### Cross Country

Long distance, middle distance and cross country runners will benefit from this camp which offers hands on advice in running techniques, diet, psychology, goal setting, weight training and competing. And Alabama gears its camp to each individual so that the mileage regimen a runner brings to camp can be maintained safely without risk of "too much, too soon." It also offers those with little or no mileage base a stimulating and encouraging way to begin cross country training. The camp is led by Tide Cross Country Coaches David Troy and Rachelle Roberts, a former All-America, both of whom have been successful on the national level. This camp is open to all boys and girls, ranging from 13 to seniors in high school. Cost is \$279 for resident campers with a discount rate of \$249 per person to groups of four or more who apply together. The camp is July 25-28. For more information, write: Southeast Elite Camps, David Troy, University of Alabama Track Office, P.O. Box 870393, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0393.

#### Track & Field

Individual skill instruction, training methods, technique, nutritional and psychological insights to training and competing are all offered to participants in the Southeast Elite Track and Field Camp. The staff includes three-time Olympic Gold Medalist and Bama Men's Head Track and Field Coach Harvey Glance as well as Tide Distance Coach David Troy, who has coached 51 All-Americans and 35 SEC champions, and Field Events Coach Rod Tiffin, who has coached 22 All-Americans and both an NCAA pole vault national champion and NCAA national decathlon champion. The camp will be held June 13-16 and is open to both boys and girls who are 13 to upcoming high school seniors. Cost is \$279 for the resident campers and there is a group discount to \$249 per camper for applications that arrive with four or more campers included. For more information, call Coach David Troy at (205) 348-8863, email him at dtroy@ia.ua.edu or write him at P.O. Box 870393, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0393.

#### Soccer

From Pee Wee to Junior All-Star to high school player, Don Staley's Bama Soccer Camps have an age-level or division that fits any kid. And his camps are open to both boys and girls. (Staley has been both a collegiate men's and women's head coach.) The first session is for the youngest soccer fans, ages 4-6. Pee Wee Camp is held June 14-18. It's geared for beginners with little or no experience. Pee Wee campers finish their day at

noon each day. Cost is \$65. That same week for the same rate is Junior All-Stars Camp, which is also designed for beginners as well as players who have experienced soccer at the recreation or travel level. Camp goes from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. for those kids ages 7-10. Boys' and Girls' Day Camp is June 21-25 and is for ages 11-14. It's geared toward intermediate and advanced players. Cost for that camp is \$120. And the final camp of the summer is June 27-July 1, Girls Advanced Boarding Camp. Cost is \$325 (including room) or, for those who don't require boarding, \$225. This camp strives to bring soccer players from all over the country for a week of intensive instruction. For more information on soccer camps, write Crimson Tide Soccer Camp, c/o Head Coach Don Staley, P.O. Box 870393, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487 or call (205) 348-0143.

#### Swim

The Alabama Swim Camp has been training swimmers for two decades now. It's a camp for all skill levels of competitive swimming and is headed by the popular Tide Assistant Head Coach Vance Rose who has coached Olympians, NCAA Champions and United States Swimming national champions. His camp teaching staff includes Tide Assistant Coach Katie Gilbert, a 10-time All-America and a U.S. Junior National 100 freestyle champion who used to attend the Tide's swimming camps when she was in high school. And campers at this summer's sessions will get a bonus in that Jonty Skinner, Bama's former head coach, is bringing the United States Resident National Team to Tuscaloosa to train at Alabama's Aquatic Center where camp is held. This year's camp offers four one-week sessions. Those dates are: May 30-June 4, June 6-11, June 13-18, and June 20-25. And for those serious swimmers who want to stay for several sessions, workouts and special activities as well as supervision will be provided on the weekends between sessions. There is no minimum age for camp. However, parents are encouraged to use their discretion in judging their child's ability to live away from home for a week in a competitive sports environment. Cost for the Alabama Swim Camp is \$395 for the first week then \$360 for each additional week. Alabama Elite Swim Camp is \$780 for two weeks then \$350 for each additional week. Alabama Day Swim Camp is \$295 per week. For an extra \$45, campers receive a voiced-over video evaluation. For more information, write: Alabama Swim Camp, P.O. Box 866103, Tuscaloosa, AL 35486 or call (205) 348-3914.

#### Tennis

Alabama's Men's Head Coach Adam Steinberg teams with Tide Women's Head Coach Jenny Mainz for the Mainz/Steinberg Tennis Camp. The event offers two sessions to chose from, June 6-10 or June 13-17. It's open to boys and girls ages 8-18. It's the ideal place for your tournament-experienced player to perfect his/her skills or ground zero for your child who has never picked up a racquet

to play the sport that can be played for a lifetime. Cost for overnight campers is \$485 (meals & lodging included), and day campers can attend for \$235. One of the rare advantages Alabama's camp can offer is that, even if it's raining on camp day, your kid won't miss a beat because Alabama has both indoor and outdoor courts. For more information, write Mainz/Steinberg Tennis Camp, P.O. Box 870393, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487 or call: Adam Steinberg (205) 348-3686 or Jenny Mainz (205) 348-3840.

#### Track & Field

Former world record holder, Olympic Bronze Medalist and, perhaps just as important, National Committee Safety Chairman Jan Johnson directs the Sky Jumpers Vault camp that makes a stop through Tuscaloosa which Tide Field Coach Rod Tiffin will run. The camps are reputed to offer the finest, most up-to-the-minute teaching for vaulters. Johnson's methods are proven successes as he's coached six vaulters over 19 feet and more than 100 who've gone 18 feet. The former Tide star is recognized as America's foremost pole vault authority. And Tiffin has coached two national champions, 15 All-Americans, and a host of others who have competed on the Olympic and world championship levels. This camp is also open to coaches who can attend as participants or observers looking for vaulting coach certification. The camp is open to males and females, ages 12 and older. The camp is held June 7-10. Residential campers pay \$320 and commuters pay \$220. For more information, write: Sky Jumpers Vault Camp, c/o Rod Tiffin, University of Alabama Track Office, P.O. Box 870393, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487 or call (205) 348-6161 and ask for the track and field office.

#### Volleyball

Judy Green offers three camp sessions, the July 11-15 Individual All-Skills Camp, the July 21-22 Setter's Position Camp, and the July 25-28 Team Camp (varsity only). And she's added a camp for the tinier set, ages 3-8, called Crimson Kids Day Camp which will be held from 8:30 a.m.-noon on July 6-9 for a cost of \$40. Green and her staff teach campers fundamental skills and team strategies of the game as well as building team goals and maintaining positive attitudes. And time is also spent with a University of Alabama sports nutritionist. Campers who register by June 1 receive a free Baden Camp ball. The tuition breakdown includes: Session I, \$280 for overnight, \$230 for day campers. Session II, \$100 for overnight campers, \$85 for day campers; Session III, \$250 for overnight campers, \$210 for day campers. There's a \$15 discount for registering 10 or more players and other applications that arrive together also receive a discounted rate. For more information, write Judy Green Volleyball Camp, P.O. Box 870393, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487 or call Assistant Coach Debbie Ponis (205) 348-3559 or email her at dponis@ia.ua.edu.



# BAMA SCORECARD

## Trainer Added

Chris Gillespie, 40, has been named as Alabama's new head football athletic trainer. He replaces Bill McDonald, who has moved to an administrative position overseeing sports medicine.

Gillespie had been head trainer at Samford in Birmingham for 16 years. He is a 1980 graduate of Mississippi College and earned a master's degree from Northeast Louisiana.

## Late Signee

As expected, Alabama has signed its 31st new football player. Terris Martin, a 6-3, 205-pound linebacker from Clarke County High School in Grove Hill, had committed to Alabama late last fall, but when news surfaced that Martin had been arrested on a drug charge, Bama withdrew the scholarship offer. A few weeks ago the charge against Martin was dropped and Alabama sent him scholarship papers, which he has signed.

As a senior, Martin (who has 4.48 speed in the 40-yard dash) made 112 tackles with 11 tackles for losses, three sacks, and eight quarterback pressures. He also played at tailback and in just six games rushed for 1,220 yards with 15 touchdowns.

Martin is expected to begin his career in junior college. While unlikely, it is possible all of Bama's 31 signees could earn academic eligibility, particularly since a judge's ruling against the NCAA's use of standardized test (ACT and SAT) scores. However, arrangements were made with all signees so that if all are academically eligible there is a procedure by which no more than 25 enter on scholarship in August.

## Upon Further Review

Even before the signing of Martin was announced, *G&W Recruiting* of Pennsylvania had up-graded the Crimson Tide class from seventh in the nation to fifth in the country. The final results of *G&W* had Bama moving ahead of Notre Dame and LSU, but still behind Texas, Georgia, Texas A&M, and Ohio State.

The publication said that Alabama had the best crop of defensive linemen in its signing class and ranked signee David Paine of Memphis Melrose the fourth best defensive line prospect in the nation.

*G&W* already has its national list of the top 100 prospects in the nation for 2000. Only one prep star from Alabama is on the list. He is lineman Mac Tyler, 6-6, 310, of Bessemer Jess Lanier.

## Scholar-Athletes

Each year the Southeastern Conference awards a post-graduate scholarship in the amount of \$5,000 to the top male and female senior athlete at each SEC institution. Additionally, one male and one female will also be chosen as the H. Boyd McWhorter SEC Scholar-Athlete and receive a \$10,000 scholarship. The awards, named for the for-

mer commissioner of the conference, will be presented at the SEC Spring Meeting in June.

Alabama's representatives are Nellie O'Connor, a soccer player from Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, and Clint Waggoner, a defensive end on the Crimson Tide football team from Fayetteville, Georgia.

## Basketball Awards

It wasn't a great basketball season, but the Crimson Tide men's team had its moments under new coach Mark Gottfried. And Gottfried said at the men's awards banquet that the Crimson Tide may have been just one SEC Tournament win away from making it into the NCAA Tournament. Instead Bama finished its year losing to Wake Forest in the NIT.

Junior center Jeremy Hays was a double winner, taking the Rebounding Award and the Coach Hayden Riley Scholarship Award given to the player with the best grade point average. Sophomore guard Terrance "Doc" Martin won the Mr. Hustle Award, while senior forward Chris Rollins was the Defensive Award winner. Brian Williams was honored as the top free throw shooter. The four seniors—Williams, Rollins, Chauncey Jones, and MC Mazique—were recognized as team captains.

Hays was also named to the SEC Academic Honor Roll.

## Women's Banquet

The women's basketball team will have its awards banquet April 16. For ticket information call the basketball office, (205) 348-7077.

Senior star Dominique Canty will pick up plenty of hardware at the banquet. She has been named to every All-America team and was a unanimous All-SEC selection.

## Honor Roll

Members of the Alabama women's basketball team selected to the SEC Honor Roll are juniors Kari Belcher, who has a 3.35 grade point average in food and nutrition, and Reagan Croyle, who has a 3.52 grade point average in biology.

## Baseball Records

Alabama's baseball team set a school record with 23 total bases in an 11-run fifth inning of a 27-0 victory over Niagara March 7. The margin of victory was Bama's all-time greatest in a shutout win and the third greatest margin in all games. G.W. Keller tied a school record with three home runs, including two of them in the fifth inning. He and Jayson Cox both scored five runs in the game. Kelley Gullledge had eight runs batted in, one short of the Tide mark.

In a 5-3 victory over Southern Miss on March 9, Darren Wood became the second Alabama player to hit for the cycle. Wood had a single, double, triple and home run in only four at bats. Frank Menechino hit for

the cycle in 1993.

Although it could not be verified as a record, on March 13, Bama's game at Tennessee was postponed by snow, believed to be the first time that phenomenon has delayed an Alabama baseball game.

## Cox III

Baseball catcher and designated hitter Jayson Cox is out indefinitely while trying to recover from mononucleosis. Cox had appeared in 19 games before sitting out the Georgia series and was Bama's third leading hitter (.317) and had two home runs and 14 runs batted in.

His absence is one reason Alabama started four freshmen in the important series against Georgia (which Alabama swept). Brent Boyd was at third base, Jeremy Brown at first, Scott McClanahan in left field, and Rock Mills at catcher. Additionally, freshman pitcher Lance Cormier appeared in all three games and picked up two of his SEC-leading seven saves.

## Shipley Retired

Infielder Craig Shipley, a veteran of 15 years in professional baseball, is retiring this year. The 36-year-old native of Sydney, Australia, played collegiately at Alabama. Shipley played for Los Angeles, the New York Mets, San Diego, Houston, and Anaheim. He hopes to play for Australia in the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney and he is also involved as an investor in Australia's professional baseball league.

## Cancelled Classic

Last fall Alabama's women's golf team missed out on a tournament because of bad weather. This spring in Bama's first three tournaments, all were shortened by one round because of weather. So Head Coach Betty Palmer decided to do something to make up for some of the lost rounds. The result is the Cancelled Classic, a 54-hole tournament for women's golf teams that have lost rounds to Mother Nature this year. The two days of play, 27 holes each day, will be at Bent Brook Golf Course in Birmingham April 11-12.

## Rankings

Men's Tennis Coach Adam Steinberg could be excused for shaking his head over the national tennis rankings. Over a nine-day period, Alabama, ranked 21st in the nation, defeated number 12 Tennessee, number nine South Carolina and number six Ole Miss and lost a one-point match on the road to number two Georgia. The result? Alabama fell seven spots, to number 28. But maybe word just travels slow. Bama is now ninth.

## Laird Impressive

One would think that a 12-7 score would be a pretty decisive victory in women's softball, in which most games are decided along the lines of 2-1. But when Alabama defeated Arkansas by a 12-7 margin on March 21, it was the conclusion of a 19-inning game, 12 extra innings. And freshman pitcher Shelley Laird, who had pitched a complete game victory in the first game of the doubleheader



that day, pitched 13 innings in relief to win the second game.

Earlier this year Laird had been named SEC Pitcher of the Week. Her honor came from her performance in Alabama's own tournament, the Bama Bash. Laird appeared in three games, striking out nine and walking one, and earned a win and two saves. In the opening game of the year she had set an Alabama record with 11 strikeouts in a win over 13th-ranked Long Beach State. She also struck out nine in Bama's upset of seventh ranked Texas.

#### Volleyball Extension

Volleyball Coach Judy Green has been given a two-year contract extension through the 2001 season. Green, who has coached over 400 victories in her career, came to Bama in 1996. Last season Bama had its best year under Green, posting double-digit victories, winning a tournament, and defeating a national powerhouse (Georgia). All six starters return from the 1998 team.

#### All-America Selections

Alabama had a number of track and field stars earn All-America honors at this year's NCAA Indoor championships.

For the women, Brandit Copper and Ne-Juan Shaul both earned the honor in the 60-meter hurdles.

On the men's side, Faizal Emamaullee in the 5,000-meter run, Tim Broe in the 3,000, Ken Fambro in the 60 hurdles, and the dis-

tance medley relay team of John Williamson, Cori Loving, Dereik Edwards, and Broe earned All-America.

#### Stabler Extended

Ken Stabler, the former Alabama and professional quarterback who made his debut last fall as color analyst on Bama football radio broadcasts, has agreed to a three-year contract extension. The rest of the broadcast team of Eli Gold as play-by-play announcer and Doug Layton and Tom Roberts on special assignments is expected to remain intact. Butch Henry is the new general manager of Crimson Tide Sports Marketing, which owns the rights to Bama broadcasts.

#### But It Wasn't Florida

In recent years, Florida has been a regular in raiding Alabama for top women's athletes. In recent years Tide stars in volleyball, track and field, and tennis have transferred to the Gators under mysterious circumstances.

Last year South Carolina joined in the fun by taking All-SEC soccer goalkeeper Carrie Warner from the Tide. It was recently revealed that South Carolina had reported improprieties of two Gamecocks assistant coaches improperly contacting Warner before she had been granted her release from Alabama. It was considered a secondary violation by the NCAA. The assistants involved were Kerri Reifel, who is still at South Carolina, and Karrie Miller.

Among the ironies of the story (in addi-

tion to the three principals spelling the same first name three different ways) is that Miller is now an assistant coach at Alabama. Additionally, Warner's replacement, freshman Rachel Brown, beat Warner out for first team All-SEC.

#### On To Atlanta

Rocky Colburn, a former Crimson Tide football defensive back and former assistant strength and conditioning coach at Alabama, has been named assistant strength and conditioning coach of the Atlanta Falcons. He replaces yet another former Crimson Tide strength coach, Tim Jorgensen, who was recently named head strength coach of the Cleveland Browns. And Colburn will be reunited with yet another former Bama strength coach, Al Miller. Miller left Alabama to work for Head Coach Dan Reeves at the Denver Broncos and has stayed with Reeves in stints at New York with the Giants and now in Atlanta. Last year the Falcons made it to the Super Bowl.

#### Coach Of The Year

Wayne Williams, who was dismissed from the Alabama track and field coaching staff after 19 years as an assistant coach, landed on his feet last year as head coach at Southern Miss. And in his second year with the Golden Eagles he was named Region 9 Indoor Track and Field Coach of the Year by the United States Track Coaches Association.

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# 1999 Alabama Spring Sports Schedules

## Baseball

Date	Opponent	Time
5	@ Houston	1
5	@ Houston 9 (11 inn.)	
2	@ Houston	6
3	Samford	1
3	Arkansas State	2
4	Arkansas State	8
13	Arkansas State	5
4	Troy State	2
5	Troy State	4
2	Cal-St.-Fuller.	5
5	Cal-St.-Fuller.	4
7	Cal-St.-Fuller.	6
6	Austin Peay	3
14	Niagara	3
19	Niagara	2
27	Niagara	0
5	Southern Miss	3
12	@ Tennessee	7
12	@ Tennessee	5
9	@ Tennessee	21
4	West Alabama	2
8	Georgia	2
4	Georgia	2
9	Georgia	8
Mar. 23	Kansas State	7 p.m.
Mar. 24	Kansas State	7 p.m.
Mar. 26	@ Auburn	6 p.m.
Mar. 27	@ Auburn	2 p.m.
Mar. 28	@ Auburn	1:30 p.m.
Mar. 30	@ Jax State	7 p.m.
Mar. 31	Jacksonville St.	7 p.m.
Apr. 2	South Carolina	7 p.m.
Apr. 3	South Carolina	2 p.m.
Apr. 4	South Carolina	2 p.m.
Apr. 7	N'western State	7 p.m.
Apr. 9	@ Miss State	6:30 p.m.
Apr. 10	@ Miss State	5 p.m.
Apr. 11	@ Miss State	1:30 p.m.
Apr. 14	@ UAB	6 p.m.
Apr. 16	LSU	7 p.m.
Apr. 17	LSU	2 p.m.
Apr. 18	LSU	1 p.m.
Apr. 20	South Alabama	7 p.m.
Apr. 23	Arkansas	7 p.m.
Apr. 24	Arkansas	2 p.m.
Apr. 25	Arkansas	2 p.m.
Apr. 28	UAB	7 p.m.
Apr. 30	@ Ole Miss	7 p.m.
May 1	@ Ole Miss	4 p.m.
May 2	@ Ole Miss	1:30 p.m.
May 7	Vanderbilt	7 p.m.
May 8	Vanderbilt	2 p.m.
May 9	Vanderbilt	2 p.m.
May 14	@ Florida	6 p.m.
May 15	@ Florida (SS)	2 p.m.
May 16	@ Florida	12:30 p.m.
May 19	SEC Tournament	
May 24	@ Hoover	
May 28	NCAA Regionals	
May 30	TBA	
June 4	NCAA Super Regionals	
June 5	TBA	
June 11	College World Series	
June 19	@ Omaha, Nebraska	

All times central

## Softball

Date	Opponent	Time
Fiesta Bowl Classic @ Phoenix		
6	Long Beach State	1
1	Massachusetts	8
2	Maryland	3 (8 inn.)
1	Utah	2 (8 inn.)
0	California	2
1	New Mexico State	0
Texas Classic @ Austin		
10	Texas-San Antonio	2
7	Texas	1
0	Arizona	8
0	Texas	2
2	Bama Bash	
9	McNeese State	0
9	North Carolina	1
3	Evansville	2
0	Indiana	2
2	Drake	1
Speedline Classic @ Tampa		
3	Iowa	4
6	Florida A&M	1
4	South Carolina	5
2	Illinois-Chicago	5
7	Maryland	3
Chattanooga Invitational		
8	Winthrop	0
0	UCLA	1
2	Chattanooga	0
3	Jacksonville State	2
4-2	@ Arkansas	5-4
6-12	@ Arkansas	3-7
Mar. 27	Kentucky	1 p.m.
Mar. 28	Tennessee	1 p.m.
Mar. 30	@ Centenary	5 p.m.
Mar. 31	@ La. Tech	5 p.m.
Apr. 2	Auburn	5 p.m.
Apr. 3	Auburn	12:30 p.m.
Apr. 7	Samford	5 p.m.
Apr. 9	@ Ole Miss	5 p.m.
Apr. 10	@ Ole Miss	1 p.m.
Apr. 17	Florida	1 p.m.
Apr. 23	Miss. State	5 p.m.
Apr. 24	Miss. State	12:30 p.m.
Apr. 27	Troy State	5 p.m.
May 1	@ So. Carolina	Noon
May 2	@ Georgia (SS)	12:30 p.m.
May 7	@ LSU	5 p.m.
May 8	@ LSU	1 p.m.
May 13	SEC Tournament	
May 16	@ Columbus, Ga.	

All times central

## Men's Outdoor Track

Date	Event
Mar. 25-	Alabama Relays
Mar. 28	
Apr. 3	USOC Training @ San Diego, Calif.
Apr. 10	@ UTEP Invitational
Apr. 10	Sea Ray Relays @ Knoxville
Apr. 17	SEC Quadrangular @ Gainesville
Apr. 22-	Penn Relays
Apr. 24	@ Philadelphia
May 1	Alabama Open
May 13-	SEC Championships
May 16	@ Athens
June 2-	NCAA Championships
June 5	@ Boise, Idaho

## Men's Tennis

Date/UA	Opponent	Time/ Opp.
7	Troy State	0
7	Georgia State	0
7	Southern Miss	0
1	@ Illinois	6
2	@ Northwestern	5
3	@ Vanderbilt	4
Feb. 18-	National Team Indoor	
Feb. 20	@ Seattle	
6	UAB	1
4	@ Princeton	3
4	Tennessee	3
4	@ So. Carolina	3
3	@ Georgia	4
4	Ole Miss	3
Blue-Gray @ Montgomery		
1	Virginia	4
4	Wake Forest	1
4	Boise State	2
Mar. 24	@ Kentucky	1 p.m.
Mar. 26	Auburn	1:30
Mar. 28	Arkansas	1 p.m.
Apr. 1	@ BYU-Hawaii	10 a.m.
Apr. 2	@ Hawaii	10:30 a.m.
Apr. 7	@ Florida	1 p.m.
Apr. 9	LSU	1 p.m.
Apr. 15	Miss. State	1 p.m.
Apr. 22-	SEC Championships	
Apr. 25	@ Gainesville	
May 14-	NCAA Regionals	
May 16	TBA	
May 22-	NCAA Championships	
May 29	@ Athens	

All times central

## Men's Golf

Date	Event	Finish
Feb. 18-	John Burns	
Feb. 20	@ Honolulu	10 of 21
Feb. 28-	Mercedes Invitational	
Mar. 1	@ Jacksonville	12 of 18
Mar. 3-	Matlock Collegiate	
Mar. 5	@ Lakeland, Fla.	1 of 18
Mar. 19-	Spring Invitational	
Mar. 21	@ Montgomery	11 of 18
Apr. 3-	Cleveland Golf Inv.	
Apr. 4	@ Augusta, Ga.	
Apr. 9-	Billy Hitchcock	
Apr. 11	@ Auburn	
Apr. 16-	SEC Championships	
Apr. 18	@ Lexington	
May 13-	NCAA Regionals	
May 15	@ Providence, R.I.	
May 26-	NCAA Championships	
May 29	@ Minneapolis	

## Women's Outdoor Track

Date	Event
Mar. 20	Jamaican Relays @ Kingston, Jamaica
Mar. 20	@ Auburn Relays
Mar. 25-	Alabama Relays
Mar. 28	
Apr. 2-3	@ Texas Relays
Apr. 10	@ UTEP Invitational
Apr. 17	SEC Quadrangular @ Gainesville

## Women's Tennis

Date	Opponent	Time
8	Southern Miss	0
6	UAB	3
5	@ Georgia Tech	4
4	@ Auburn	5
Feb. 18-	National Team Indoor	
Feb. 21	@ Madison, Wisc.	
2	Maryland	7
	@ Williamsburg, Va.	
1	@ Wm & Mary	8
0	Florida	9
0	Clemson	8
1	South Carolina	5
1	@ LSU	8
0	Tennessee	9
2	Vanderbilt	7
Mar. 30	@ Southern Cal	1:30
Mar. 31	@ Pepperdine	1:30
Apr. 2	Arkansas	2 p.m.
Apr. 6	@ Georgia	2:30
Apr. 8	Miss. State	2 p.m.
Apr. 11	@ Kentucky	10 a.m.
Apr. 17	Miami	Noon
Apr. 18	@ Ole Miss	1 p.m.
Apr. 22-	SEC Championships	
Apr. 25	@ Baton Rouge	
May 14-	NCAA Regionals	
May 16	TBA	
May 20-	NCAA Championships	
May 28	@ Gainesville	

All times central

## Women's Golf

Date	Event	Finish
Feb. 26-	Florida Lady Gator	
Feb. 28	@ Gainesville	14 of 19
Mar. 12-	LSU Fairwood	
Mar. 14	@ Baton Rouge	11 of 18
Mar. 26-	South Carolina Inv.	
Mar. 28	@ Columbia	14 of 16
Apr. 2-	Women's Southern	
Apr. 4	@ Athens, Ga.	
Apr. 11-	Cancelled Classic	
Apr. 12	@ Bent Brook	
Apr. 16-	SEC Championships	
Apr. 18	@ Auburn	
May 8-	NCAA Regional	
May 10	@ Columbia, S.C.	
May 21-	NCAA Championships	
May 24	@ Tulsa, Okla.	



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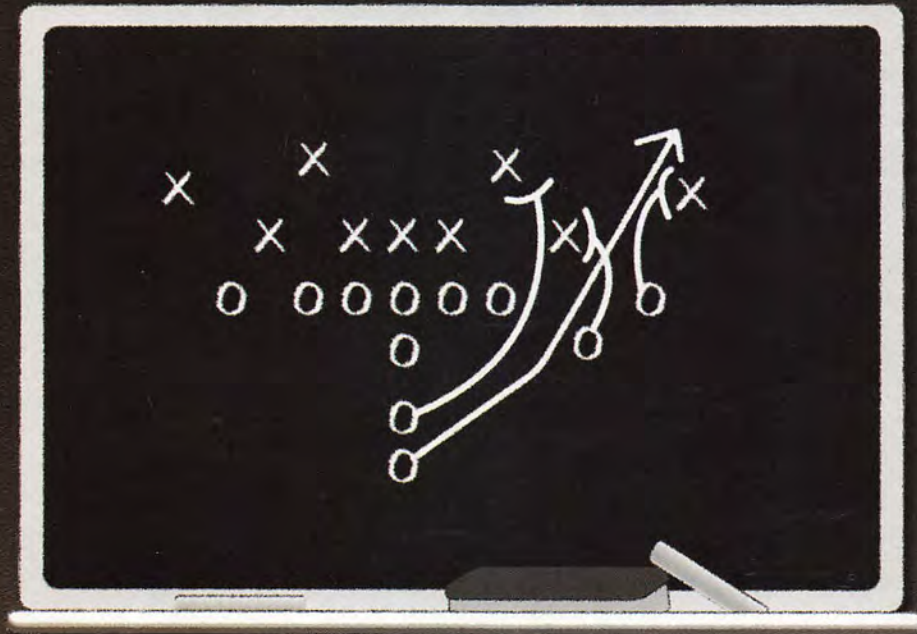


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